Summary: objectives and outcomes

Training Workshop on “Capacity building in inclusive education for professionals (pedagogues and psychologists) working in secondary schools in Montenegro” (Tivat, Montenegro, 21-23 November 2007)

The main objectives of the training workshop were to: (i) foster capacity development for pedagogues and psychologists working in secondary schools in Montenegro with regard to education of children with special needs; (ii) analyze core concepts and dimensions around a broadened concept of Inclusive Education; (iii) share conceptual frameworks to address policies and programs towards students with special needs; (iv) train in teaching methods in special needs education and; (v) share outcomes from needs assessment exercise towards students with special needs.

30 pedagogues and psychologists from Montenegro secondary schools have participated in the training workshop on Inclusive Education. There was very good contribution from the participants during this training. The main outcomes were as follows: (i) participants decided to create a new “Association of pedagogues and psychologists of Montenegro” centred on promoting inclusive visions and practices at the school level; (ii) identification and conceptualization of possible areas of cooperation with the Ministry of Education and Science of Montenegro, (iii) the set up of the COP Focal Point National Coordination headed by the EFA Team, and in joint coordination between the Ministry of Education and Science of Montenegro and the Faculty of Philosophy of the University of Montenegro and; (iv) a good possibility of forging a partnership with UNICEF around several issues, principally with regard to inclusive education and the child friendly school model.

There are several elements which seem important for future activities such as: (i) contribute to the development of the new association above mentioned; (ii) explore the possibility of implementing a pilot experience in secondary schools as a significant step in the implementation of inclusive practices at the classroom level; (iii) elaborate a plan of activities for the biennium 2008-2009 aimed at supporting the Ministry of Education and Science of Montenegro and (iv) exchange views and ideas with UNICEF staff in Montenegro in order to further concretize areas of cooperation for year 2008.