



BULGARIAN DEVELOPMENT AID

Report

Project “Youth Leadership for the Development and Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals”

01 October 2017 – 30 September 2018



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PROJECT SUMMARY

Title of the project	“Youth Leadership for Development and Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals”
Country	Bulgaria
Beneficiary	National Center of Public Health and Analyses (NCPHA)
Duration	12 months
Geographical coverage	Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Macedonia, Serbia, Armenia, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine, Iraq and Afghanistan
Start date of the project	01.10.2017
End date of the project	30.09.2018
Objectives	<p>Overall objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To facilitate the exchange of experience in promoting democracy, protecting human rights and supporting civil society in the development of evidence-based youth policies and programs, by building capacity and empowering young people from partner countries in the Western Balkans, the Black Sea region and countries characterized by internal instability and sources of migration flows. • To contribute to building the administrative capacity for improving the health and education of young people and for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and the 2030 Development Agenda in the Western Balkans, the Black Sea region and countries characterized by internal instability and are sources of migration flows. • To promote the Bulgarian Development Aid during the Presidency of Bulgaria of the European Union. <p>Specific objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of the capacity of young activists, potential employees and experts in national and regional institutions of their countries, for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, as well as their leadership and social skills. • Capacity building of young activists, potential staff and experts in their country's national and regional institutions, for project development and fundraising in the field of youth policy, youth participation and

	<p>development.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Institutional strengthening of the Y-PEER International Youth Network and national Y-PEER youth networks in countries of interest, as well as encouraging young people to interact globally.
Target group	Youth leaders, national coordinators and activists of national Y-PEER networks in the Western Balkan countries, the Black Sea region and countries which are characterized by internal instability and are sources of migration flows, potential staff and experts in national and regional institutions of their countries.
Total budget	188 740 BGN
Amount of the support from the Bulgarian Development Aid	84 (158 700 BGN)

I. BACKGROUND

The **National Center of Public Health and Analyses (NCPHA)** is a structure of the national health system in Bulgaria, which implements activities related to:

- Protection of public health
- Health promotion and disease prevention
- Information provision of health management

The **International Institute for Youth Development PETRI - Sofia** is a center based on an effective partnership between international and national institutions and an international network managed by young people - the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), NCPHA and the international youth network Y-PEER. It was created in 2007 as a part of the structure of NCPHA, with the support of UNFPA and the Ministry of Health of Bulgaria.

PETRI - Sofia is an innovative structure where young people are equal and leading partners in the process of its development and a successful model of partnership between young people and adults.

PETRI - Sofia has over 10 years of experience working on youth development and leadership, peer education standardization, comprehensive sexuality education, youth-adult partnership, research, monitoring and evaluation, training and information sharing in the field of HIV prevention and sexual and reproductive health and rights of young people in the region of Eastern Europe and Central Asia and beyond. Its mission is to inspire and support adolescents and youth to become leaders that work for sexual and reproductive health and rights, gender equality and peacebuilding, through international cooperation and innovative approaches. As regional knowledge hub and resource center, PETRI also acts as a facilitator for exchanging knowledge, sharing resources, encouraging the advocacy efforts of young people, and providing solutions with the help of a network of partners.

For more than 10 years, 50 young people from 22 countries have rotated as PETRI - SOFIA fellows, investing in their development, energy and creativity, and learning to be professionals and leaders.

Over 900 young peer educators and professionals have been trained in the fields of: sexual and reproductive health and rights; project development and management and fundraising; policy dialogue, advocacy, youth leadership and intergenerational partnership.

Delegations from a number of countries in the region and beyond have visited PETRI - Sofia to exchange experience on health issues, youth participation and youth policies.

NCPHA, through PETRI - Sofia, provides interactive trainings for the development of the capacity of youth in the following key areas:

- Advocacy for the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and the 2030 Development Agenda;
- Youth leadership;
- Project development and management;
- Resource mobilization and fundraising;
- Sexual and reproductive health and rights;
- HIV prevention among young key populations;
- Peer education training;
- Theater based training techniques for peer educators;
- Advocacy training for Roma youth leaders.

All trainings are conducted based on standardized manuals developed by experts in these areas, using interactive methods of the peer-to-peer approach.

In 2015, with the support of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in the frame of the Mid-term Program for Development Assistance and Humanitarian Aid of the Republic of Bulgaria for the period 2016 - 2019, PETRI - Sofia implemented the project "Improvement of the Sexual and Reproductive Health of Adolescents and Young People in the Region of Eastern Europe and Central Asia", through which 16 youth leaders from 14 countries in Eastern European and Central Asia (EECA) participated in a training for trainers based on the peer-to-peer methodology, and 3 youth leaders took part in the international fellowship program of PETRI - Sofia.

In 2016 the Ministry of Foreign Affairs supported the project "Development of Youth Leadership in Support of the Sustainable Development Goals", through which 30 youth activists from 18 EECA countries and 2 youth leaders from Afghanistan were trained on youth leadership and project development and management. In the frame of this project 3 more youth activists took part in the international fellowship program of PETRI - Sofia.

Following the example of this successful cooperation, in 2017-2018, PETRI - Sofia implemented the **project "Youth Leadership for Development and Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals", funded by the Bulgarian Development Aid.**

The activities planned in the frame of the project addressed the needs and the development of youth leaders and activists, especially focusing the capacity of the **Y-PEER international youth network** which is actively supported by PETRI - Sofia and UNFPA.

Y-PEER is an international network of young people and organizations working in the field of Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR), as well as other youth-related issues, since 2000, through a peer education approach and interactive methodologies in 52 countries around the world.

Y-PEER envisions young people to have meaningful participation in decision making processes related to their healthy lifestyles and civic engagement, in order to have equal access to information and services.

Y-PEER is a key partner to development agencies including UN, particularly UNFPA, in achieving and fulfilling commitments in the global development agenda namely ICPD, SDGs, Post2015 framework and 2030 Agenda and the implementation of the Security Council Resolution 2250 on Youth, Peace and Security.

Y-PEER has proved itself vital network in advocating and addressing sexual and reproductive health issues related to young people since its establishment - for the past 18 years. Given that Y-PEER's strength and position is not only at the global and regional level but has a strong grassroots community work, the sustainability of the network for a longer term becomes a priority to focus on. Furthermore, the network is expanding its focus to respond to the youth burning needs and priorities by engaging in global advocacy movements, working in humanitarian settings, utilizing peer-to-peer approach in programs targeting the promotion of youth leadership and working with young key populations. Y-PEER aims to transfer the processes happening in this field on the national level to the international level through innovative and more inclusive approaches.

II. ACTIVITIES

1. Support for the international fellowship program of PETRI - Sofia

Through the project, the international fellowship program of PETRI - Sofia, in which more than 50 young activists from different countries have participated so far, continued throughout 2017-2018.

In 2017, under this project, three young activists started their fellowship at PETRI - Anmar Khalid from Iraq (December 2017 - May 2018), Ana Mosiashvili from Georgia (January - April 2018) and Sargis Ghazaryan from Armenia (March - September 2018). They were selected as fellows after a competitive selection procedure that includes submission of documents (CV, application form, recommendation letters from a Y-PEER Focal Point in Charge and UNFPA country offices) and an online interview.

The fellows were involved in all the activities of PETRI, including:

- Supporting and updating the online advocacy platform on sexual and reproductive health and rights created and maintained by PETRI - Sofia - <http://speakactchange.org/>

- Organizing international meetings and trainings, such as PETRI - Sofia's Annual School 2018, the GAB Meeting of the Y-PEER Network, the Strategic Planning Meeting for the Y-PEER Network and the International Foundation for Y-PEER Development;
- Collecting and editing articles, as well as finalizing and publishing the Y-PEER International Network News Bulletin issued every six months, which contains the achievements of Y-PEER national networks worldwide;
- Maintaining and updating the Y-PEER Facebook page and the PETRI website;
- Organizing local and international campaigns related to youth and sexual and reproductive health and rights (10 Days of Activism - Y-PEER global campaign, Valentine's Day Campaign, International Youth Day Campaign, etc.);
- Developing guidelines on conflict resolution, peace-building and prevention of radicalization among young people, as well as guidelines on SDG and ICPD review for young people;
- Participating in international conferences, such as the AIDS Conference 2018, the international Study Session "Youth against Online Discrimination", the Regional Conference on ICPD@25 in Geneva, etc.;
- Communicating on a daily basis with the Y-PEER network members, Focal Points in Charge, International Coordinators, etc., as well as with members of other youth-led organizations and networks;
- Developing concept notes, project ideas and proposals.

Through its international internship program PETRI - Sofia:

- provides a platform for youth participation, development and leadership, and empowers young people;
- supports the development of qualified young professionals who will contribute to key national and regional goals and to increasing institutional capacity in their countries, in the fields of youth policy and development, sexual and reproductive health, gender equality and youth participation;
- encourages young people's interaction at regional level by supporting the establishment of platforms and networks for exchange and cooperation;
- promotes building partnerships between countries in the Region;
- supports the development of the International Y-PEER Network and other international youth networks in the region and the world.

Anmar from Iraq says about the fellowship program: "Nothing that is meant for young people should be done without their participation. We must influence decision-making and strive to contribute to positive changes in society. I think that through my fellowship at PETRI - SOFIA I acquired invaluable knowledge and skills and I am convinced that this experience is extremely important for my personal and professional development".

2. Needs' assessment of the Y-PEER national networks regarding their capacity building needs

In order to determine what kind of trainings were perceived as necessary for the Y-PEER members in the Region, what kind of skills they consider most important and needed, PETRI - Sofia implemented a needs' assessment survey among youth leaders. It contributed to gathering information on the capacity building needs of youth leaders related to their active participation in the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and their work as youth activists. For this PETRI - Sofia developed an online questionnaire on the training needs of youth leaders. It was spread among Y-PEER national coordinators (Focal Points in Charge), as well as among UNFPA Country and Regional Offices, in the countries of interest. The results were processed and the themes of the training modules of the upcoming Annual School were determined, according to them - project development and management and fundraising and resource mobilization.

3. Annual School of PETRI - Sofia

The Annual School of PETRI - Sofia took place in April 2018 in Pravets, Bulgaria, and contained two training modules running in parallel: Project Development and Management and Fundraising and Resource Mobilization for Civil Society Organizations.

3.1. The Project Development and Management training module took place on 19-23 April 2018 in Pravets, Bulgaria, and involved 21 young people from 10 Eastern European and Central Asian countries plus Iraq. 14 of them were female and 7 male, coming from Albania, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Georgia, Iraq, Kosovo, Macedonia, Moldova, Serbia and Ukraine. Participants were pre-selected by the Y-PEER national networks and/or UNFPA country offices, based on the criteria provided by PETRI – Sofia in the specifically designed call for applications.

The trainers were highly qualified master trainers who have extensive experience and expertise in leading Project Development and Management trainings for the Y-PEER network and other youth networks - Mr. Ivica Cekovski from Macedonia (team leader), Mr. Azamat Baialinov from Kyrgyzstan, Mr. Petar Mladenov and Ms. Sophia



Kandilarova-Georgieva from Bulgaria, with the support of Ms. Ana Mosiashvili, PETRI - Sofia fellow, and under the supervision of Ms. Anina Chileva, PETRI - Sofia Executive.

The main objectives of the module were to:

- Equip participants with knowledge and practical skills regarding the design of health and social development projects in developing countries.
 - Increase the competence of selected young people from the region to plan, design, implement, monitor and evaluate high quality programs.
 - Create capacities of relevance in preparing project proposals for funders, in managing projects and in promoting accountability and partnership approaches in project planning and management.
 - Provide practical experience in designing project memoranda, linking situational analysis, project rationale, project appraisals, logical framework, implementation and M&E plan and budget in a coherent manner.
 - Deploy effective presentational, team-working, conflict resolution and task management skills in a context of time pressure and resource limitations.

Participants were trained for a results-oriented approach to project design, as required by most donors nowadays. The module followed a training curriculum that was firstly developed during the Annual PETRI Sofia School 2015.



Both, didactic and experiential methodologies were employed to meet the objectives of the training. Participants were guided through the essential steps of the projects cycle in plenary presentations/discussions and then had the chance to exercise their skills by completing assigned tasks in 4 small groups composed of 5-6 members

each. All small groups had one or two assigned mentors from the training faculty who worked closely with them throughout the entire process.

The module included the following core sessions:

- Introduction to project cycle and proposal writing
- Identifying problems
- Situational analysis (problem three and needs assessment)
- Beneficiaries and stakeholder analysis
- The logical framework (Vertical logic: Goal, Outcomes, Outputs, Activities, assumptions)
- Monitoring and evaluation (Horizontal logic: Indicators, Milestones, Targets, Means of verification)

- Project management tools (Timetable, Staffing list, Terms of reference, Providing feedback)
- Budgeting
- Project memoranda and application process

Supplementary sessions on innovative programming, resource mobilization and advocacy/lobbying were also provided. Under the guidance and supervision of the training faculty, all four small groups developed and presented basic project proposals by the end of the training.

There were, in addition, several joint sessions with participants of the Global Advisory Board and the Fundraising module (Introductions, Partners panel and Sustainable Development Goals).

3.2. The Fundraising and Resource Mobilization for Civil Society Organizations module took place on 21-23 April 2018 in Pravets, Bulgaria, and involved 20 youth activists from Armenia, Bulgaria, Georgia, Iraq, Kosovo, Lebanon, Libya, Moldova, Nepal, Romania, Syria, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan.

The training module was led by an experienced trainer with expertise in working in the field of fundraising and resource mobilization in the civil society sector, Mrs. Krasimira Velichkova, Director of the Bulgarian Donors Forum which promotes the development of positive attitudes towards philanthropy in the society, aims to develop philanthropy



in Bulgaria by working to improve the legal and fiscal environment for philanthropy, to provide a platform for contacts between donors for the exchange and coordination of donor policies.

The overall objectives of the training module were:

- Strengthening the capacity of Y-PEER network and youth organizations on fundraising resource mobilization.
- Developing understanding and knowledge about the philanthropy as a tool for social change.
- Building knowledge about the specific tools and mechanisms for fundraising from individuals and companies.
- Creating capacities for writing and presenting fundraising cases for the local and youth communities.

The specific objectives were the following:

- The Y-PEER network members to be able to successfully analyze the donors' environment, attitudes and opportunities for the mobilization of different resources, both from their local communities and on the national and international levels.
- The Y-PEER network members to be able to successfully attract and retain representatives of different groups of donors, both from their local communities and on the national level.

The topics of the training included:

- The role of fundraising and resource mobilization for the civil society organizations and initiatives.
- The importance of the context for the fundraising planning.
- The importance of the organizational development (vision, mission, strategic planning) for the success of the fundraising and resource mobilization.
- The role of the stakeholder analyses for the fundraising planning.
- Existing platforms for fundraising and volunteers recruitment.
- Techniques and mechanisms for fundraising.
- Corporate and individual donors.
- Motivation of volunteers and retaining volunteers.
- Campaign organization, including charity campaigns and events.



- Long-term relations with donors.
- Reporting to the donors.

The main training tools and methodology included interactive methods: workshops, group work and individual tasks, role-play games and simulations, presentations, brainstorming, evaluation and feedback sessions.

The participants of the training were trained on developing fundraising plans for their own ideas connected to the PETRI and Y-PEER activities in their countries. The training received positive feedback from the participants, according to the feedback forms filled in by them. They found the workshops practical and useful for their work, and they recognize that the skills in the field of fundraising and resource mobilization are crucial for the work of Y-PEER and other youth organizations. Upon returning to their home countries they were able to work with their colleagues on resource mobilization and fundraising campaigns in their organizations.

4. Global Advisory Board (GAB) Meeting of the Y-PEER Network

The annual Y-PEER Global Advisory Board Meeting (GAB) in 2018 aimed to gather Focal Points In Charge (FPCs), Y-PEER International Coordinators (ICs) and Y-PEER partners from countries in Eastern Europe & Central Asia, Arab States and Asia-Pacific to discuss Y-PEER Network's sustainability within the operational and programmatic context.

The GAB is a meeting which is organized annually to discuss the previous year's achievements and challenges of Y-PEER, bringing together FPCs, ICs and partners, with the mentorship and support of the Y-PEER alumni. GAB is the highest decision-making body of Y-PEER. In GAB meetings, national networks share their experiences,



partners come to discuss the challenges and achievements of Y-PEER during the year, and to find solutions together; an action plan for the upcoming year is created, as well as a more long-term strategy of the Y-PEER network. This is an essential meeting for Y-PEER's sustainability, future work and achievements.

GAB is not only a technical meeting but also a motivating coming-together opportunity for national networks. Young activists who work actively online together, sharing information and organizing campaigns, working on the local and national levels but rarely meeting on the international level in person, have the opportunity for face-to-face communication, which is priceless for the international youth network. Considering that almost all members of Y-PEER are volunteers, this motivation is very much needed, and brings further results.

The GAB Meeting 2018 was organized by PETRI - Sofia and took place in Pravets, Bulgaria, on 19-20 April 2018. It brought together 18 national coordinators (Focal Points in Charge or FPCs) and 5 international coordinators (ICs) of Y-PEER, as well as an alumni of the network and a former IC, and two country representatives. The participation of some of the FPCs was funded by the respective UNFPA country offices.

The meeting started with the welcoming speeches of the Y-PEER international coordinator in Charge Mr. Anmar Khalid and PETRI Sofia Executive Ms. Anina Chileva. Then the Regional



Director for Eastern Europe and Central Asia of UNFPA Ms. Alanna Armitage, joined the opening ceremony of the meeting online and mentioned her happiness about the meeting which was challenging to organize. She specifically mentioned that Y-PEER has the capacity to seek for other opportunities itself. The GAB Meeting 2018 focused

on capacity building, resource mobilization, directing more efforts on SRHR in Humanitarian settings, peacebuilding and youth leadership. Additionally the GAB meeting addressed advocacy, reporting, internal and external communications and monitoring and evaluation. The main objective of the meeting was to discuss issues relevant to the development of the international network. During the meeting, the national Y-PEER networks exchanged experiences and the ByLaws of the international network were updated.

The UN Envoy on Youth Ms. Jayathma Wickramanayake, the UNFPA EECARO Youth Programme Specialist Mr. Rune Brandrup, the PETRI - SOFIA Executive Ms. Anina Chileva and the Y-PEER Alumni and In Charge of the Youth Policy Directorate at the Bulgarian Ministry of Youth and Sports Mr. Petar Mladenov participated in the meeting with a panel discussion called “Y-PEER and Partners”, focused on the young people’s development and empowerment programs. The panel discussion was followed by a Questions & Answers session, with the moderation of the international coordinators of Y-PEER Mr. Anmar Khalid and Ms. Souzana Humsi. The participating young people had the opportunity to ask questions about youth engagement, the importance of meaningful youth participation and visions regarding partnerships and youth in the future.

5. Strategic Planning Meeting of the Y-PEER Network

The Y-PEER Strategic Planning Meeting took place on 5-8 October 2018 in Plovdiv, Bulgaria. The meeting gathered the 6 International Coordinators of Y-PEER, 2 alumni members of Y-PEER, the international Y-PEER Fellows from PETRI - Sofia and the International Center for Youth Development (ICYD) in Amman, Jordan, representatives of PETRI – Sofia and UNFPA Egypt, the Executive of ICYD, Jordan, as well as the Executive of the Y-PEER Asia-Pacific Center in Bangkok, Thailand.

During the meeting, the participants exchanged information about their work and the context in the different regions, as well as experiences, examples of innovative activities and good practices of empowering young people and youth advocates. The needs of the national networks of Y-PEER were discussed, and the Y-PEER Priorities for 2018-2021 were determined, based on those. The



Strategic Plan of Y-PEER International 2018-2021 and Action Plan of Y-PEER International 2018-2019 were discussed and adopted.

Mr. Rune Brandrup, Youth Program Specialist at UNFPA Eastern Europe & Central Asia Regional Office, took part in the meeting through an online call. Mr. Brandrup shared with the participants the UNFPA strategies for the development and empowerment of young people in the region. The UNFPA vision for the Y-PEER development in the changing regional and global context was discussed.

At the end of the meeting, the upcoming international 10 Days of Activism Campaign of Y-PEER was planned. It took place from the 1st of December (World AIDS Day) to the 10th of December (World Human Rights Day). This year's theme of the global campaign was "Youth in Action for Safety and Equality" and it focused on youth involvement and leadership.

III. PROJECT MANAGEMENT

The methodology used for the project implementation was based on a multidisciplinary approach, including a wide range of specific methods and tools. Their choice was in line with the nature of the target group's needs, the nature of the problems that were being solved and the specifics of the objectives, the results sought and the planned activities (according to the vertical logic of the logical framework approach). The capacity of the project implementation team and the specificities of the current legislation, which regulates the management of projects funded by the state budget, were also taken into account.

In accordance with these criteria, the following basic methods were used for the implementation of the project activities:

1. Direct participation of the NCPHA and PETRI - SOFIA team in the project activities:

- In the monitoring of the work of the international fellows - carried out by the Executive of PETRI - SOFIA and supervised by the NCPHA management.
- In the preparation of the survey for needs' assessment, its conducting and the analysis of its results.

- In the preparation of the public tender documentation for a competitive procedure with an open invitation to companies, the organization of the tender procedure and in concluding a contract with a tour agency.
- In the communication with participants in the international trainings and meetings, the logistic and organizational support of those, as well as the preparation of concept notes, selection of trainers. The training agendas were developed by the trainers under the leadership of the PETRI - SOFIA Executive.
- The trainings were carried out by the project team and the trainers who were young people, already qualified trainers of peer educators, who had completed training cycles provided by PETRI and / or Y -PEER.
- The creation of the Y-PEER News Bulletin was carried out by the project team with the support of the fellows at PETRI - Sofia.
- The monitoring and evaluation of the project was carried out by the project team with the support of leading NCPHA specialists.

This method used as a direct resource the professional experience and commitment of the experts who are members of the team. It was an important prerequisite for acquiring a real sense of ownership of the results of the project and their sustainability over time.

2. Inclusion of direct beneficiaries from target groups in the project activities.

This method was consistently part of all activities. It consisted in the direct participation of young people in all the project activities. Particularly important in this process were the PETRI - SOFIA fellows who have always been full members of the team, actively participating in decision-making and the implementation of all activities.

This method contributed for the active participation, empathy and support from direct beneficiaries and stakeholders, in order to ensure the achievement of the expected results related to transparency, coordination and effectiveness in the planning and implementation of the project activities.

3. Participation of the partners in the project activities:

- In the process of selection of the international fellows: when preparing the documentation for the selection of the fellows and when evaluating the candidates - representatives of the team, as well as representatives of UNFPA and Y-PEER took part.
- In the selection of Y-PEER national coordinators and youth leaders for the participation in the international trainings, UNFPA country offices in the countries of interest, PETRI fellows and Y-PEER international coordinators took part.
- The Y-PEER Global Advisory Board Meeting, as well as the Strategic Planning Meeting were jointly organized by PETRI - SOFIA and the International Y-PEER Network.

4. Conducting international trainings based on interactive methods, on learning by doing and experiencing.

Two trainings were organized, for 37 youth activists and leaders in total. The preliminary assessment of the needs of the target groups led to identifying their specific needs for particular training courses, focused on expanding the knowledge and experience of the trainees in the field of youth policies and rights of young people in the areas of work of PETRI - SOFIA. The PETRI trainings were conducted in an interactive and participatory way, through non-formal educational methods based on learning by doing and experiencing.

5. Delegation of responsibilities to external contractors, according to the Bulgarian legislation for public tenders.

This method was used for the organization of the international trainings and meetings, in relation with the tendering (1) a tour agency for arranging the transportation of the participants from their countries to Bulgaria; (2) a tour agency for providing adequate facilities for accommodation and organization of the activities and (3) a transport company for arranging the transportation of the participants from the airport to the venue of the trainings and meetings and vice versa.

This is a legal requirement for NCPHA and PETRI - SOFIA, and allows for the quality implementation of the activities with an optimal price and cost-effectiveness. The companies which provided the above mentioned services were Atlas Travels LTD (flight tickets), E-TOURS (facilities and accommodation) and Pro Real (transfers from/to airport). The project team was in constant communication with the companies, for ensuring the proper monitoring and coordination, as well as the quality performance and compliance with the contracts.

6. Use of information and communication technologies (ICTs).

This method was connected to the maintenance of the PETRI - SOFIA website and the data bases for the activities of the national Y-PEER networks.

The use of ICTs ensured the wide accessibility of information related to the project for young people in the Region. The information was public and updated regularly. The online database used for the activities allowed the data collected to be permanently stored and facilitated its reliable and sustainable use, in relation to the better management and development of the youth networks and to ensuring the sustainability of project outcomes.

7. Project management planning.

A detailed work plan and calendar of the activities were created during the first month of the project implementation. The project management was also be based on decentralization and empowerment, on the subsidiarity principle, which meant that decisions were taken at the

lowest possible level of subordination and competence within the project management team and the experts involved.

8. Implementation of a system for internal monitoring and evaluation.

A system for internal monitoring and evaluation was developed, based on the usual approach of following all aspects of the project implementation throughout the project cycle. The tool allowed the project team to objectively monitor, analyze and evaluate whether the activities were being developed according to the schedule and planned content, and whether the outcomes and indicators were achieved.

IV. RESULTS

A monitoring and evaluation plan was created and several instruments were updated and/ or created with the help of a consultant, in order to assess the progress of the implementation of activities and the achievement of the goals and objectives of the project.

Internationally agreed reporting forms monthly were updated and used for monitoring and evaluation of PETRI - Sofia fellows' work, as well as a final reporting form within their work.

Monitoring and evaluation feedback forms of the two trainings were developed with the help of consultant.

After finalizing all activities, a final report and a brief will be prepared for the project partners, which will contribute to the popularization of the Bulgarian efforts in the area of youth development and the sharing of good practices in the region of Eastern Europe and Central Asia.

Outcome indicators		
Indicator	Target	Result
Young people involved in the international fellowship program of PETRI - SOFIA in the period of the project	2	3
Number of international trainings organized in Bulgaria	2	2
Number of realized needs' assessments	1	1

Number of young people trained in project development and management and fundraising and resource mobilization	40	41
Number of international meetings	1	2
Number of young people who took part in the Global Advisory Board Meeting of Y-PEER and the Strategic Planning Meeting	44	43
Developed Action Plan (2018-2019) and Strategic Plan (2018-2021) of the Y-PEER International Network	1 Action Plan and 1 Strategic Plan	1 Action Plan and 1 Strategic Plan

Impact indicators			
Indicator	Target	Measurement	Result
Satisfaction of the fellows	4th and 5th level according to the Likert scale	Final evaluation form and report filled in by each fellow	4th and 5th level according to the Likert scale
Satisfaction of the trainees in the Project Development and Management training	4th and 5th level according to the Likert scale	Final evaluation form filled in by the participants in the Project Development and Management training	4th and 5th level according to the Likert scale

Satisfaction of the trainees in the Fundraising and Resource Mobilization training	4th and 5th level according to the Likert scale	Final evaluation form filled in by the participants in the Fundraising and Resource Mobilization training	4th and 5th level according to the Likert scale
Satisfaction of the participants in the Global Advisory Board Meeting of Y-PEER and the Strategic Planning Meeting	4th and 5th level according to the Likert scale	Final evaluation forms filled in by the participants	4th and 5th level according to the Likert scale
An additional indicator are the views, comments, shares, etc. of the posts related to the activities in the frame of the project on the Y-PEER Facebook page			More than 35 000 people reached, according to the Facebook statistics

V. DISSEMINATION, VISIBILITY AND COMMUNICATION

A multi-stage media campaign was conducted as a part of the project, including a press conference, an online campaign, and a closing meeting with media, as well as publications in media.

The first stage consisted in a press conference - an official presentation for Bulgarian media representatives of the project and the partnership between NCPHA, the Regional Office of UNFPA for Eastern Europe and Central Asia and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The objectives and activities of the project and its role in the implementation of the Med-Term Program for Development Assistance, as well as the work of Y-PEER and PETRI - SOFIA were presented by Ms. Anina Chileva and the international fellows at PETRI - SOFIA - Sargis Ghazaryan, Anmar Khalid (also International Coordinators of Y-PEER) and Ana Mosiashvili.

The second stage involved the use of online tools, and social networks in particular, as the most popular means of communication among young people, which allowed reaching out to a larger number of partners and young people in the countries of interest. Publications in

social media were regular and contained updates about the activities that took place as a part of the project. Examples of publications on the Y-PEER Facebook page which has more than 42 thousand followers worldwide:

- [GAB Meeting 2018](#)
- [PETRI - SOFIA Annual School](#)
- [Strategic Planning Meeting for Y-PEER and the International Foundation for Y-PEER Development](#)
- [Final Meeting with Bulgarian Media Representatives](#)

The site of PETRI - Sofia, as well as the SpeakActChange platform (<http://www.speakactchange.org>) were constantly updated with specific information on the project activities and how target groups were reached. Examples of the publications can be found here:

- [PETRI - SOFIA implements the project “Youth Leadership for the Development and Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals” with the support of the Bulgarian Development Aid](#)
- [PETRI - SOFIA Annual School and GAB Meeting 2018](#)
- [Strategic Planning Meeting for Y-PEER and the International Foundation for Y-PEER](#)

The News Bulletin of the Y-PEER International Network which is published every 6 months and contains information about the work and achievements of Y-PEER national networks from all regions, as well as of PETRI - SOFIA and the other 2 international centers of Y-PEER (in Jordan and Thailand), also contains information about the project and the activities that took place (the issue of the News Bulletin January-June 2018 is available [here](#) and the next one - for July-December 2018 will be published in the beginning of 2019). The News Bulletin is created by the international fellows at PETRI - SOFIA, with information collected from the Y-PEER national and international coordinators, as well as from the international centers and partners.

A final meeting with media representatives took place in Pravets, Bulgaria, at the end of the project, on 30 November - 1 December 2018, connecting the project with the World AIDS Day as well (1 December). During the meeting in which 21 people took part - representatives of Bulgarian media (including the Bulgarian National Radio and the “24 Hours” newspaper), PETRI - SOFIA and Y-PEER, the project activities and results were presented, as well as the work of PETRI and the Y-PEER network. Information materials about the project were distributed among the participants. After the meeting, several articles were published in national and local media (e.g. [an article on the Bulgarian National Radio webpage](#)).



All the promotional and information materials produced in the frame of the project were branded according to the requirements, they contained the flag of the Republic of Bulgaria, the name of the project and the Bulgarian Development Aid program as funding mechanism, the logos of the participating organizations. All publications explicitly mention the financial support of the Bulgarian Development Aid and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Bulgaria. During all events organized in the frame of the project, the source of the funding was also announced and the respective banners with information were publicly displayed.

VI. SUSTAINABILITY AND FOLLOW-UP

The sustainability of the project is ensured also through the continuous work of the international and national Y-PEER networks in countries of interest for Bulgaria's foreign policy. The experience shows that PETRI - SOFIA fellows, trainees and trainers have continued their development and career in national administrations and international organizations whose mandates are related to the Development Agenda and the realization of the Sustainable Development Goals. They are our natural partners in the implementation of PETRI's activities in the upcoming years, as well as in the promotion of Bulgaria's role in youth leadership development and the promotion of good practices in youth policy, youth development and participation, sexual and reproductive health and rights. The Y-PEER Global Advisory Board and the Strategic Planning Meeting supported the organizational development of the International Y-PEER Youth Network, they provided sustainability to the work Y-PEER International and the national Y-PEER networks in countries of interest for Bulgaria's foreign policy through the updated ByLaws, the strategic decisions for the action plan and strategic plan for the next 3 years. The activities in the frame of the project helped youth leaders in the acquisition of organizational and administrative capacity which can be used later in the administrative development of their countries.

The promotion among young people of the Bulgarian Development Aid during the Bulgarian Presidency of the EU contributed to creating sustainable positive attitudes towards Bulgaria as an EU member among youth leaders from a significant number of partner countries.

A Memorandum of Understanding has been signed between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the National Center of Public Health and Analyses, and on the basis of it, as well as the strategic partnership between the two institutions so far, NCPHA and PETRI - SOFIA are determined to continue working for this bilateral cooperation and for the successful implementation of new projects that will contribute to the development of the capacity of young people in the countries of interest for the foreign policy of the Republic of Bulgaria.

VII. APPRECIATION OF THE SUPPORT

NCPHA and PETRI - Sofia wish to express their gratitude and appreciation to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Bulgaria for its continuous support and generous contribution to the youth empowerment and the development of the capacity of young activists for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, as well as for supporting the work of PETRI - SOFIA and the International Y-PEER Youth Network in the field of youth civic engagement, sexual and reproductive health and rights and peacebuilding. We are looking forward to our continued cooperation to jointly address challenges and embark on

opportunities in the process of implementing the Sustainable Development Goals and the 2030 Development Agenda.

PROJECT BUDGET FROM MFA

EXPENDITURES		AMOUNT BGN
PERSONNEL		48 268,62
Administration and Coordination	02 02	11 969,95
Trainers	02 02	15 851,13
Fellows	02 02	11 152,00
M&E Consultant	02 02	1 850,00
Translation	02 02	2 775,00
Taxes		4 670,54
Maintenance	10	110 431,38
Living palce and expenditures for fellows		4 542,00
Visas and insurances		207,26
Air tickets		48 400,00
Hotel, food and treaining rooms		42 888,00
Transfers from and to the airport		4 050,00
Training materials		900,00
Publicity		9 444,12
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		158 700,00