



CHILD RIGHTS INFORMATION CENTER, MOLDOVA (CRIC)

Activity report 2011

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ORGANIZATIONAL PROFILE

Who are we?

The Child Rights Information Center (CRIC) is a non-governmental organization, set up in 1999. All our programs are developed and implemented based on research and child rights. CRIC provides access to information related to children's rights for all interested and/or responsible parties.

Our vision

Children enjoy their rights, their views are taken into account and they are empowered to participate in the different settings – family, school, community – being guided and supported by parents and professionals.

Mission

We will work to ensure both children and adults are equipped with knowledge about children's rights, how to use them, and will support children and adults to participate in improving the realization of their rights.

Focus and approach

CRIC interventions are based on the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) and focus on the following five areas:

- children's participation in decision-making processes
- family environment (and alternative care)
- education
- protection of children from all forms of violence
- protection of children from economic exploitation and trafficking

These areas are interconnected and interrelated in the same way as the children's rights they correspond to.

CRIC contributes to the realization of children's rights especially through:

- ▲ supporting children's participation in the CRC monitoring process
- ▲ producing materials and tools as well as conducting training on children's rights issues (both for children and adults)
- ▲ strengthening the capacities of professionals working with children
- ▲ capacity building of the institutions responsible for the implementation of children's rights

For more information on CRIC overall goals and the specific objectives of our ongoing projects please visit www.childrights.md

REPORT ON STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

Approach	DATA COLLECTION / MONITORING
Strategic goal 2011-1015	The national monitoring system is sensitive to children's perspectives on the rights of different categories of children, including the most vulnerable
Results 2011	
	CRIC contributed to the general monitoring framework of the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) developed on initiative of the Ministry of Labor, Social Protection and Family (MLSPF). We commented the drafts of documents, focusing on the sets of indicators for the following three articles of the CRC: article 12 (right to participation), article 19 (freedom from violence) and article 29 (aims of education). We put forward indicators developed by children in our previous projects.
	We supported an initiative of the Council of Europe and the MLSPF and to assess Moldova policy on children's participation. Together with Youth National Resource Centre (YNRC) we facilitated children's participation in the assessment: promoted an online survey and conducted 2 focus-groups with children in order to research their perspectives on participation more in depth. In addition, we reviewed the methodology for the study and a first of the study report and took part in the organization of a national hearing - presentation and discussion of preliminary findings. The national hearing was held on 15.12.2011 in Chisinau. Representatives of the numerous Ministries, District Departments, national and international NGOs as well as children took active part in the discussions.
	On initiative of the Committee of Ministers, the Council of Europe in cooperation with the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on child and youth participation drafted a Recommendation on child and youth participation. Since the Council of Europe is committed to involving children and young people in the consultation process on the Recommendation and its follow-up, CRIC facilitated participation of two children from Moldova in that process. Before join in discussions in Strasbourg, the children were prepared in the country: they were informed about the entire process, its content, aims and actors and met other children with diverse backgrounds from Moldova. Furthermore, CRIC keeps the children informed about the further steps and the results the consultations.
	CRIC supports groups of children in Leova and Orhei districts to monitor implementation of their rights. Each group has 3 members and involves children with fewer opportunities to participate in decision-making processes. After an initial training with focus on provisions and principles of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), actors and their roles in the CRC implementation and monitoring process (3-7 and 7-11.08.2011), the children had examined some particular rights: freedom from discrimination (26-28.10 and 9-11.11.2011) and education (13 and 21.12.2011). They developed rights based indicators and started to monitor situation of the right to education in their communities.

Approach	DISSEMINATING KNOWLEDGE OF AND MOBILIZATION FOR CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
Strategic goal 2011-1015	improved access to good quality information about child rights, targeted to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • children as rights holders • parents, as secondary duty bearers • community members
(general info)	CRIC has produced and disseminated information on children's rights and advocated for implementation of the CRC since its foundation. An aim of our campaign is to contribute to a better understanding of children as rights holders and adults as duty bearers, as well as the CRC provisions in general. Furthermore, we aim to draw attention to current and emerging issues faced by children living in the Republic of Moldova, and to support duty bearers to address those problems with a rights based approach. Therefore, we offer training and produce materials specifically for children and for adults according to their role (parents, professionals). We also strive to involve the addressees into the development of the materials and to translate them into Russian.
Results 2011	
Prevention of all forms of violence	<p>Together with the National Centre for Child Abuse Prevention, CRIC has produced 20.000 leaflets, 2.000 stickers and 1.000 posters for prevention of violence (including abuse, neglect and exploitation) in 2011. A half of them were distributed to the participants of the workshops with multidisciplinary groups, teachers and children within the project "Safe, strong and free - a better system to protect children in Moldova". Professionals were asked to place the materials in public places such as city hall, health centers or shops and public transportation).</p> <p>As a result of CRIC's training with teachers on prevention of violence, teachers organized activities at local level. They discussed various topics related to violence in children's daily lives with around 1.500 children, 650 parents and 400 teachers. Some of the topics, discussed among teachers were forms and consequences of violence, school settings/situations as sources of violence, role of the teacher to prevent and intervene in the cases of violence, assertive communication as a method to prevent violence between children and against children, etc.</p>
Support for children with migrant parents	<p>Starting with 2010, CRIC has continuously advocate for the rights of children left behind. Awareness raising activities contributed to the development, implementation and monitoring of the National Plan of Action for children left behind (2010-2011). We supported the National Council for Child Rights Protection to organize regional workshops with representatives of all the district councils on the issue of children left behind.</p> <p>CRIC organized a national conference on children left behind on 23 September 2011 in Chisnau. 44 persons took part: form teachers, social workers and coordinators of free time activities involved in CRIC projects, school inspectors from 8 districts, representatives of the Ministry of Education, Ministry for Social Protection, National Council for Child</p>

	<p>Rights Protection, Children’s Ombudsman, Chisinau Department for Child Protection and representatives of NGOs. Participants discussed about the psycho-pedagogical and social assistance of children left behind, difficulties professionals have in supporting children and families, presented good practices / results and formulated a series of recommendations for national and local authorities in order to improve the support for those affected by migration. Besides, CRIC actively supported teachers to inform parents and caregivers about possible consequences of migration on children and to support children at home and consequently of the importance of children's preparation for parents' migration and keeping contact with them when abroad. 572 parents and caregivers participated in such activities and around 1500 CRIC's booklets for parents and caregivers were distributed in the activities organized by teachers.</p> <p>Our booklets for children “Home alone”, for parents “My child is home alone” and for caregivers were translated into Russian in 2011.</p> <p>A total of 8500 booklets for parents, 10500 booklets for children and 5500 booklets for caregivers were distributed within informational seminars and other project organised by CRIC in cooperation with other relevant actors.</p> <p>A handbook for professionals working with the families affected by migration was developed for teachers, educators, psychologists, social workers. It was consulted with the State University translated into Russian.</p> <p>Finally, as a result of workshop with journalist a number of articles and broadcast on the topic of children left behind was released.</p>
	<p>A guide for children's monitoring of the CRC implementation was developed in 2011. The guide is divided into three chapters. An introduction explains the meaning of child rights and importance of their monitoring by children; the second part sets out the monitoring process more in detail and the third offers practical advice and tools. It will be used for a training of the professionals working with children at local level in order to develop their capacities to support children. The guide is first of that kind worldwide. Furthermore, CRIC has supported an international advisory group in a similar initiative taken by the NGO group for the CRC. Two guidelines for children's participation in reporting to the Committee on the Rights of the Child, a guide for NGO willing to facilitate children's engagement and a guide for children willing to take part in that process were released in 2011.</p>
	<p>In total 270 copies of the Youth Agenda or Teenager’s Agenda, a publication which helps graduates (from boarding schools) to prepare for further life / student / professional life was distributed in numerous schools: Cazanesti (the local and the boarding school), Napadova (the local and the boarding school), Vascauti (the boarding and local school), Leova (the boarding school, VIII-IX grades), Orhei (the boarding school, VIII-IX grades), Bender (the boarding school, VIII-IX grades), Cahul (The Centre for services for disadvantaged children, pupils from VIII-IX grade).</p>

Approach	SUPPORTING PROFESSIONALS WORKING WITH AND FOR CHILDREN
Strategic goal 2011-1015	Professionals have the skills: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to develop resilience and life skills of children, being sensitive to children's views • to identify, refer, report cases of children's rights violations, working in team with other professionals • to develop parenting skills
(general info)	CRIC worked with wide variety of professionals in 2011. Besides school staff, we cooperated with social assistants, doctors, policemen and journalists. The main goal of our training is to strengthen their capacities to fulfill their responsibilities for children's rights. Hence, each training deals with the CRC principles and provisions, the process of the CRC implementation and monitoring in the Republic of Moldova and have a particular focus on the role each group of professionals play in within these processes. The specific topics of our training in 2011 were violence prevention in diverse settings (school, family) and better implementation of the rights of marginalized/vulnerable groups of children.
Results 2011	
Prevention of all forms of violence	<p>52 representatives of the districts departments of education, social work, health, public order; mayors; teachers, social workers, doctors, policemen (multidisciplinary team) from Orhei and Leova participated in a training held on 12-14.10.2011 in Orhei and 19-21.10.2011 in Leova , which were implemented together with National Centre for Child Abuse Prevention (CNPAC). The aim of the training was to develop abilities of professionals in preventing and protecting children (responding to cases child abuse, neglect, exploitation cases). Main topic were children's rights, violence against children (distinctive signs, types, indicators, the immediate and long term consequences) and the legal and institutional framework in the field of child protection, including criminal law.</p> <p>68 teachers and psychologists from Orhei and Leova participated in a training on 31.10 – 2.11 and 3-5.11.2011 (first phase) and 29.11. – 1.12.2011 (second phase). The aim of the training was to strengthen teachers' abilities to prevent violence through development of positive parenting skills. The participants increased their skills in applying life skills education as an approach to prevent violence through strengthening children's capacities to respond to the issues they face in everyday life.</p> <p>56 teachers from Orhei, Leova, Rezina, Edinet, Drochia, Rascani, Goldeni took part in a training held on 3-5.03.2011 and 06-08.10.2011 in Chisinau. The participants examined the national and international legislation related to child abuse prevention, referral mechanism of cases of abuse and learned how to identify and report cases of violence as well how to prevent violence by working with parents and support them to develop positive parenting skills.</p> <p>50 teachers from Orhei and Falesti participated in a training conducted on 16-18.08.2011 and 21-23.09.2011 in Chisinau. The aim of the training was to support teachers to prevent violence in the classrooms and schools through</p>

	better class management.
Support for children with migrant parents	<p>890 deputy directors for education and school psychologist from 20 districts (Cahul, Rascani, Criuleni, Cantemir, Edinet, Stefan Voda, Drochia, Singerei, mun. Chisinau, Taraclia, Nisporeni, Glodeni, Causeni, Telenesti, Comrat, Ciadar-Lunga, Vulcanesti, Floresti, Ungheni) were informed about issues related to migration of parents (aspects of the emotional, cognitive, social and physical development of children affected by parents' migration) and supported in planning activities to support children and parents affected by migration.</p> <p>26 coordinators of free time activities (mainly drama clubs) from Orhei, Falesti and Telenesti participated in a training held on 21-24.03.2011 and learned about social theatre techniques (theatre of oppressed) and their use when working with marginalized/vulnerable groups of children.</p> <p>22 journalists participated in a workshop on 15.04.2011 organised together with the Centre for Journalism Investigations and media company UrmaTa. The main topic was related to migration and the image of children left behind in the media. The participants learned about how to respect children's rights when dealing with children, especially children left behind.</p>
Support for graduates from boarding school	14 social assistants from Chisinau, Leova, Orhei and Cahul participated in a training conducted on 10-12.08.2011 in Chisinau. The main aim of the training is to strengthen their capacities to assist graduates from boarding schools. They learned about group and individual psychological counselling, necessary support the graduates from boarding school need in order to integrate into society, adapt to the conditions of life outside the boarding school and to continue their education (eg. how to guide them in setting goals and achieving them). Besides, they learned about child protection system in the Republic of Moldova and the National Referral System for Assisting Victims and Potential Victims of human trafficking
Children's rights and inclusion	26 civic education teachers from Calarasi, Stefan Voda, Causeni, Straseni took part in a training held on 7-9.12.2011 the main aim of the training was to increase their skills of teaching about children's rights within the framework of civic education and how to support participation of marginalized/vulnerable groups of children in school and community activities. Their experience will inform a children's rights module for the civic education teachers – lesson plans they are developing and implementing will be included into the training module.

Approach	INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY
Strategic goal 2011-1015	<p>Institutions responsible for children's rights have a framework, tools and capacities to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • assess children's needs • plan and adjust institutional policies, and coordinate activities according to child rights issues • take into account children's views
Results 2011	
School	<p>A methodology for establishment of monitoring groups within the school councils was developed based on CRIC experience (e.g. models of child led monitoring at local level in two districts) as well as international good practices (Wales). A part of the methodology, guidelines for the establishment of the school councils has been presented to/consulted with the representatives of the Ministry of Education.</p> <p>Development of a training module on children's rights for civic education teachers is in process. A draft of the module was presented to the responsible for teachers training from the Institute for Educational Sciences, Pedagogical University and Pedagogical College. We have supported civic education teachers to take part in the development of the module. (see objective 3)</p> <p>A tool for prevention of violence was developed in a workshop together with young people and teachers. The 'Grain of Sand' tool aims to improve the detection of risk situations, to break the silence of abused children and to encourage taking initiative. It also allows for the identification of reliable adults in the environment of each young person. The tool is based on a video. It shows approximately 10 scenes of teenagers at risk (such as those subject to manipulation, peer pressure, bullying, lack of communication in family, sexual abuse, etc...) where their integrity and ability to say 'no' are in danger. These fictional scenes take place in school and family settings. This video is shown to youth from 10 to 14 years of age (in schools, youth clubs, district centres, etc...). An adult (youth worker or teacher), who was previously trained on the presentation methods, coordinates the meeting. The scenes are first shown altogether; they are then shown one by one. After having seen the movie, young people talk about what they saw and work together to find solutions to change the situations so that they end positively.</p>
Professionals working with and for children, LPA	<p>The final draft of a interdisciplinary mechanism to prevent and intervene in the cases of abuse, neglect, exploitation and child trafficking was developed. It consists of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⤴ general provisions (object and the aim of the instruction, basic notions, principles for multidisciplinary intervention); ⤴ intersectorial procedures; ⤴ sectorial procedures (police, health, education);

^ final provisions.

The mechanism was corroborated with the national legislation and other existing documents in the field (NRS, infant mortality).

A guide for children's monitoring of the CRC implementation was developed in 2011. The guide is divided into three chapters. An introduction explains the meaning of child rights and importance of their monitoring by children; the second part sets out the monitoring process more in detail and the third offers practical advice and tools. It will be used for a training of the professionals working with children at local level in order to develop their capacities to support children. The guide is first of that kind worldwide. Furthermore, CRIC has supported an international advisory group in a similar initiative taken by the NGO group for the CRC. Two guidelines for children's participation in reporting to the Committee on the Rights of the Child, a guide for NGO willing to facilitate children's engagement and a guide for children willing to take part in that process were released in 2011.

A handbook for professionals working with the families affected by migration was developed for teachers, educators, psychologists, social workers. It was consulted with the State University translated into Russian.

Principle	NON-DISCRIMINATION
Strategic goal 2011-1015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⤴ Children belonging to minorities and children at risk have priority access to information on children's rights, opportunities for participation and seek support in situations where rights are violated ⤴ Tools on non-discrimination are available to adults (teachers)
(general info)	<p>Article 2 obliges States to respect and ensure the rights set forth in the Convention to each child within their jurisdiction without discrimination of any kind. This non-discrimination obligation requires States to actively identify individual children and groups of children the recognition and realization of whose rights may demand special measures. The Committee on the CRC has underlined the importance of taking special measures in order to diminish or eliminate conditions that cause discrimination. Recognizing the non-discrimination principle CRIC strives to support marginalized and disadvantaged children to enjoy their rights.</p>
Results 2011	
Graduates from boarding schools	<p>233 children, pupils of the 8th and 9th grade from the boarding schools (Napadova, Vascauti, Cazanesti, Falesti, Bender, Leova and Orhei) participated in seminars held on 4-7 and 11-14.05, 9-11.10 and 26–29.10.2011 in Chisinau. The aim of the seminar was to support them to develop their personal abilities to facilitate their social and professional integration. Some of the specific objectives were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⤴ to identify and analyse the main personal resources (internal/external) ⤴ to assess information/training needs (knowledge, abilities and skills). ⤴ to practice the skills of assertive communication and positive promotion of the own image in order to increase self-esteem ⤴ to practice analyzing personal decisions ⤴ to identify the advantages and disadvantages of a profession, risks related to the profession ⤴ to enhance knowledge, skills and abilities with regard to personal budgeting and money management ⤴ to identify educational institutions which offer learning the desired profession ⤴ to learn compiling a folder with the documents necessary to continuing education ⤴ to identify actors that are responsible to provide healthcare and personal safety ⤴ to evaluate possible employment opportunities <p>In addition to 12 graduates of boarding schools, who are supported by CRIC and partner organizations in their further education for the second and third year, 2011 we started with assistance to 30 more pupils from Orhei, Leova and Bender. They were selected together with the boarding school/residential institution staff, based on the following criteria: motivation to continue professional studies, lack of support from the family or any other type of support. Besides accommodation during the study (except for the orphans, who are provided by the state), covering costs</p>

	<p>associated with the school and basics for decent living (eg, a blanket, towels and dishes), they receive a scholarship. In the same time they are thought by social assistants how to manage the scholarship, school and out of school activities.</p>
<p>Children with migrant parents</p>	<p>Two summer camps were organized on 22-26.08.2011, in Holercani Pension, Criuleni District, and 75 vulnerable children including children with migrant parents participated. One workshop focused on the development of children's creativity and the other on youth work in their communities. Building their communication skills, abilities to work in team and to lead a group through strengthened their capacities to organize their and their peers' free time. In addition, at least 1038 children (463 with parent abroad – 44%) participated in activities organized by teachers, participants in our workshops. For example, drama clubs conducted activities based on social theater (theater of oppressed) techniques with participation of 250 children. Children reported that they feel more informed about migrations issues, more confident and better supported by the teachers and school staff.</p>
<p>Ethnic minorities</p>	<p>A workshop was organized with 17 Roma and Russian speaking children in order to develop a child friendly version of the CRC in their languages. The participants live in Călărași, Hîncești and Fălești districts. The workshop was held on 24-26.11.2012 in Chisinau. Children learned about their rights, actors and process of the CRC implementation in the country and reflected about the situation of their rights in their communities. The workshop is part of the process of drafting child-friendly versions of the Convention on the rights of the Child in Romani and Russian language.</p>
<p>Potential victims of trafficking</p>	<p>Assisting (potential) victims of trafficking from the rayons of the project implementation (Bender, Leova, Orhei, Telenesti, Floresti, Falesti, Soroca, Balti, Cahul) via NRS (national referral system).</p>

Principle	CHILDREN'S PARTICIPATION: RIGHT TO BE HEARD
Strategic goal 2011-1015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adults responsible for ensuring children's rights, especially parents as secondary duty-bearers, take into account children's opinion • Children participate in the realization of their rights, are involved in dissemination of information on rights and contribute to child rights violations identification and reporting
(general info)	<p>Article 12 oblige States to respect, protect and fulfil the child's right to express his or her views freely in "all matters affecting the child" and to take their views into account in decision making processes in such matters. This principle, which highlights the role of the child as an active participant in the promotion, protection and monitoring of his or her rights, applies equally to all measures adopted by States to implement the Convention. CRIC has been committed to promotion of the principle and facilitation of children's participation in various settings and level since its foundation.</p>
Results 2011	
Local level:	<p>Seventeen groups of children were established in Leova and Orhei districts with the aim to monitor implementation of their rights. Each group has 3 members and involves children with fewer opportunities to participate in decision-making processes. After an initial training with focus on children's rights, provisions and principles of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), the relationship between duty-bearers and rights-holders, the CRC implementation and monitoring process (3-7 and 7-11.08.2011), the children had examined some particular rights: freedom from discrimination (26-28.10 and 9-11.11.2011) and education (13 and 21.12.2011). They developed rights based indicators and started to monitor situation of the right to education.</p>
National level:	<p>On initiative of the Parliament of the Republic Moldova and with support from UNICEF, CRIC has facilitated participation of a group of children in a round table. The event was devoted children's perspective on the situation of their rights and it took place on 25.05.2011. Besides parliamentary commissions, children informed also NGO representatives and media about the issues related to the rights of socially excluded groups of children (disabled, left behind, Roma children, etc.).</p>
International level:	<p>On initiative of the Committee of Ministers, the Council of Europe in cooperation with the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on child and youth participation drafted a Recommendation on child and youth participation. Since the Council of Europe is committed to involving children and young people in the consultation process on the Recommendation and its follow-up, CRIC facilitated participation of two children from Moldova in that process. Before join in discussions in Strasbourg, the children were prepared in the country: they were informed about the entire process, its content, aims and actors and met other children with diverse backgrounds from Moldova. Furthermore, CRIC keeps the children informed about the further steps and the results the consultations.</p>

FINANCIAL STATEMENT 2011

The opening balance on January 01, 2011

No	Funding institution	Opening balance EURO	Opening balance MDL
1	Save the Children Sweden	5.801,43	93.519,05
2	UNICEF	4.535,67	72.391,54
3	EU UN Joint Migration Initiative	14.402,43	231.943,94
4	Kids First Fund	2.957,17	49.361,71
TOTAL		27.696,70	447.216,24

Incomes from grants in the period 01/01/2011-31/12/2011

No	Funding institution	Contribution EURO	Contribution MDL
1	Save the Children Sweden	69.326,71	1.131.430,44
2	Charitas Czech Republic	28.498,65	460.306,13
3	International Organization for Migration	83.549,96	1.361.174,32
4	OSCE Secretariat OSR CTHB	68.982,00	1.134.471,07
5	UNICEF Moldova	149.512,43	2.444.357,00
6	EU UN Joint Migration Initiative	7.172,90	122.744,89
7	Save the Children Youth Denmark	14.602,50	236.824,81
8	Foundation Albergo della vita Italy	2.984,00	47.184,50
9	Asociacion Juvenil 'El Consul'	2.468,00	40.519,62
10	Ekvilib Institut Slovenia	26.211,18	425.654,67
11	Kids First Fund	10.422,21	170.119,50
12	European Commission	934,36	15.454,31
13	Save the Children Kosovo	454,00	7.570,81
TOTAL		465.118,90	7.597.812,07

The closing balance on December 31, 2011			
No	Funding institution	Contribution EURO	Contribution MDL
1	Save the Children Sweden	24.529,26	398.504,81
2	International Organization for Migration	4.168,02	64.360,50
3	OSCE Secretariat OSR CTHB	17.632,14	289.982,04
4	UNICEF Moldova	26.023,24	413.014,70
5	Kids First Fund	1.274,68	20.532,58
TOTAL		73.627,34	1.186.394,63