



UNITED NATIONS
OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

ACT PROJECT

Assisting Communities Together



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FOREWORD

It is within our own communities that we can each do our part to make the human rights message known and understood. Activities carried out by local human rights and community-based organizations in all parts of the world have shown the power of local commitment and action. International organizations could never replace the remarkable efforts of civil society, but they can encourage and support them.

In 1998, my Office launched the *ACT Project* (Assisting Communities Together), in partnership with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), to help empower local communities to promote and protect human rights by providing financial support to relevant projects. The *ACT* grants, small in scale, have proved to have a great impact. Our partners who received the grants – local non-governmental organizations, schools, professional groups, women’s organizations, individuals – have reported on initiatives undertaken with great dedication and powerful imagination and on the usefulness of well-oriented and tailored projects. UN colleagues in the field have reported that the *ACT Project* has facilitated dialogue between civil society and local/national authorities, thanks to the visibility provided to civil society’s work through UN support. This brochure provides interesting examples of the *ACT Project* in action.

The *ACT Project* is made possible thanks to contributions received from governments and from the private sector. My Office deeply appreciates this support and pays tribute to donors for their confidence. The *ACT Project* also relies on close cooperation at the field level between all United Nations partners involved in its implementation: the network of UNDP Resident Representatives, the local presences of my Office, as well as missions fielded by the

Department of Political Affairs and by the Department of Peacekeeping Operations. We warmly thank them all for their contributions and efforts to make the *ACT Project* happen.

My Office intends to expand the *ACT Project* in the years to come as a practical contribution to the UN Decade for Human Rights Education (1995-2004). We look forward to strengthening cooperation with local partners to promote human rights in people's daily life.



Mary Robinson

United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

The ACT (*Assisting Communities Together*) Project from 1998 to 2000

Established in 1998 to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the **ACT (*Assisting Communities Together*) Project** has supported individuals, institutions and NGOs that undertake human rights activities in local communities by providing micro-grants of up to US\$3,000. The Project was launched by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) and is implemented in cooperation with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

The *ACT Project* reinforces the role of civil society in protecting human rights by encouraging people at the grassroots level to promote human rights. At the same time, the Project strengthens partnerships between the United Nations and local human rights constituencies.

During the **pilot phase** of the *ACT Project* (1998-1999), which was funded by voluntary contributions (from Australia, Denmark and Norway) commemorating the fiftieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, OHCHR Headquarters received over 300 applications through selected UNDP Resident Representatives and OHCHR field offices. Sixty-nine grants, totalling approximately US\$130,000, were awarded in 24 countries.

Given the positive feedback received for this pilot phase, in November 1999 OHCHR launched a **second phase** (1999-2000), supported by a contribution of US\$250,000 from the United Nations Foundation. The second phase of the *ACT Project* incorporated lessons learned from the earlier initiative: the Project management, for example, was decentralized, making it more responsive and efficient in the field. OHCHR field offices and UNDP country offices in 16 selected countries received more than 500

“The ACT Project, a really fruitful initiative, brought home to us the level of ignorance of the population at the grassroots level about human rights-related issues, and the amount of work that still has to be done in the area of promotion and protection of human rights.”

UNDP Resident Representative in Togo, where five projects were funded in 2000.

“It is striking to see how much you can do with little money! You give it to the right, enthusiastic people on the ground and they do wonders with it! [...] Very little seed money might often be exactly what it takes to move an idea from utopia to real action. In many cases, it is also of great help to have the blue UN logo backstopping a project proposal.”

UNDP Jordan.

“Such small-funded projects are very flexible and effective. They raise the overall image and capacity of the national NGOs, as well as their participation in social and political life in the country.”

UNDP Resident Representative in Georgia, where three projects were funded in 1998.

applications for grants, and local ACT Task Forces, composed of local offices of UN agencies and other partners, selected 97 projects to be supported under the second phase of the Project.

Activities supported under the Project

The activities supported under the two phases of the ACT Project were mostly aimed at promoting either human rights in general or the rights of specific populations (children, women, elderly persons, people living with HIV/AIDS). More than 10,000 persons benefited directly, and many more indirectly, through the 166 projects that received grants.

• Working with the media

In March 2000, the Mongolian NGO *Globe International* organized a seminar on human rights in Ulanbaatar, **Mongolia**, for six women journalists, each of whom was on the staff of one of the nation's daily newspapers. Inspired by the seminar, and with assistance from two specialized lawyers, the journalists began writing weekly columns for their newspapers focusing on women's and children's rights. Their articles reached more than 500,000 readers. A compilation of the articles, together with educational materials on women's and children's rights, was published in May 2000.

In **Georgia**, the television station *Studio RE* organized a TV talk show focusing on violations of human rights. Twenty-six people, including representatives of the Georgian Government, local NGOs and other citizens, participated in the discussion, which was broadcast live in October 2000.

“The trained journalists now have a good knowledge of children’s and women’s basic rights and they can address these issues in future articles. Moreover, UNICEF reacted positively to the project and agreed to support the trained journalists through further training and international meetings.”
(Comment from **Globe International, Mongolia**)

“Our TV show informed Georgians of the human rights situation in the country. Government authorities acknowledged the problems. We hope that the Georgian population will therefore be more sensitized to the human rights violations.”
(Comment from **Studio RE, Georgia**)

The *General Union of Disabled Palestinians*, based in Gaza in the **Occupied Palestinian Territory**, conducted a sensitization campaign on the rights of disabled persons through two television talk shows broadcast in December 2000 and January 2001. Topics of discussion included the right of people with disabilities to an accessible environment, disabled women's right to work, disabled children's right to education, and the right of the hearing impaired to have access to a sign-language interpreter in major public institutions.

• Organizing cultural events

Amis des Enfants, an NGO active in **Togo**, created dramas that depicted exploitation of children in the workplace, violence against children, trafficking in children, and the inferior status of girls. The plays were performed in schools in the remote Tsevie-Davie area, in the local Ewe language, in April 2000. While the NGO expected an audience of about 400 children, some 1,800 attended the performances. To the surprise of the organizers, the children were accompanied by their parents, who showed a keen interest in the issues raised in the plays. The enthusiastic reception prompted the authorities and the local NGO to schedule another performance of the plays on 16 June 2000, the Day of the African Child.

“We raised awareness about people with disabilities and we educated decision-makers about specific rights of the disabled. We also motivated media facilities to pay more attention to the disabled. Above all, we offered a platform for people with disabilities to speak up about their rights.”

(Comment from the General Union of Disabled Palestinians, Occupied Palestinian Territory)



“Empowering children as ‘paralegals’ in the streets, especially those who have travelled the same roads as abused minors, vagabonds, junkies, sex workers and youth offenders, is probably one of the best ways we can provide them with the legal education they greatly need today.”

(Comment from the Stairway Foundation, Philippines)

In the **Philippines**, the *Stairway Foundation* organized a five-day workshop on children’s rights for former Manila street children. The May 1999 event included sporting competitions, songs and plays that addressed such issues as health care, relationships with parents, the structure of the Government, and how to talk with the authorities. Thirty-two children participated in the activities, which were designed to build on the experience and knowledge the children had acquired in the streets and to use the children’s innate talents and skills to highlight the important points made in each session. The grant recipient reports that the children clearly appreciated the opportunity to express and share the many thoughts and feelings they had previously kept to themselves.

The *Educational Theatre Association*, based in Quezon City, **Philippines**, created and performed a play to raise awareness about domestic violence against women. More than 1,000 persons attended performances held throughout the country during 1998 and 1999. The play and the issues it raised were publicized in several local newspapers.



• Monitoring local conditions

During spring 2000, *Liberia Prison Watch* visited the Bong and Margibi counties of **Liberia** to monitor the human rights situation in prisons and raise awareness about the rights of prisoners and detainees among rural community dwellers and members of the criminal justice system. The group met with members of the courts and security forces and with county officials to discuss the rights of detainees, including the right to a fair trial, to legal counsel and not to suffer torture. The grant recipient reports that, as a result of the visits, detainees' food rations improved in quality and quantity, cooperation with the International Committee of the Red Cross was strengthened, proper record systems were established, and the courts began working to reduce the problem of prolonged detention and overcrowding.



In **Yugoslavia**, the *Serbian Democratic Forum* provided legal aid and services to refugees in Belgrade, especially advice on property rights, to facilitate their return to Croatia. Eight hundred persons benefited from the project; 200 of them were able to return to their country of origin.

A **Malawi** journalist, Linje Patrick Manyozo, produced a television documentary on child labour in the Thyolo tea

and coffee plantations. Manyozo spent 16 days in the field gathering information on the causes and consequences of child labour and its impact on the economy, on public health and on the children themselves. The documentary, made in 2000, reveals the harsh working conditions the children have to endure and highlights the link between the AIDS pandemic and child labour: since many adults have died of AIDS, children have had to go to work to support themselves. Manyozo remains in contact with policy-makers and law enforcement officials to keep track of any progress made in eradicating the problem.

From November 2000 to February 2001, the *Labour Rights Development Organization* in **Cambodia** organized human rights and labour law training sessions for 62 workers, mainly women, from three factories in Phnom Penh. Despite the abysmal working conditions in these factories and the fact that one-third of the workers are illiterate, the NGO was not only able to offer training in human rights law and negotiating skills but, as a result of the sessions, independent trade unions were established in two of the three factories visited.

“The response to these human rights activities was overwhelming. The interest and the awareness of human rights raised among the children as well as among the school’s teachers were enormous and positive.”

(Comment from OHCHR, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia)

“The main measure of the impact of the project is that, as one of the returnees said, ‘finally someone stood up for the persons from the Srb municipality.’”

(Comment from OHCHR, Croatia)

• Creating information centres

Staff of the elementary school Pere Tosev, in the multi-ethnic village of Dupjacani in **the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia**, set up a “human rights corner” in the school library. The corner was stocked with human rights publications and books, and teachers initiated various human rights-related activities, such as an essay contest on the theme “the rights of the child”, readings from the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and quizzes.

In 1999, the NGO *Association of Human Rights and Citizens’ Freedom* in **Croatia** established a human rights information centre in the municipality of Srb (Zadar county). The centre, which mainly targets returnees, provides infor-

mation about returnees' rights, lobbies the authorities, and raises awareness about the living conditions and property rights of returnees. The NGO has also distributed basic food and clothing supplies, donated by citizens of Istra County, to 36 families, and has provided legal assistance to 63 individuals on cases related to returnees' rights.

The public library in Prijepolje, an area of **Yugoslavia** that is predominantly Muslim, purchased books on human rights issues, particularly on women's and children's rights. Library users, who are mostly women and children, said that were it not for the *ACT Project*, they would never have learned about human rights and how to protect those rights.

In the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, the *Association for Citizens' Tolerance and Cooperation of Citizens of the City of Prilep* set up a local office where citizens can report human rights abuses. The Association also conducted a series of public awareness and education campaigns to promote the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

• Conducting awareness campaigns

On the fiftieth birthday of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), the *Ad Hoc Alliance for the Celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the UDHR*, an umbrella group in **Yugoslavia** composed of 47 NGOs, distributed human rights promotional materials, such as leaflets on the UDHR, lighters, stickers, and badges with articles of the UDHR printed on them, to promote public awareness of human rights. More than 500 persons helped distribute the materials in several towns across the country. Festivities celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of the Declaration, including the performance of a play that addressed such issues as freedom of expression and freedom of thought, and rock concerts attended by dozens of teenagers, were held in Atezjez.

“In this small and remote community, books have a special value. Public education and health facilities are not a priority here. By giving funds to this library we are demonstrating our commitment to work with municipalities.”

(Comment from OHCHR, Yugoslavia)

“The general population welcomed the materials and asked questions about human rights violations and what procedures were in place to ensure that their rights were respected.”

(Comment from the Ad Hoc Alliance for the Celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the UDHR, Yugoslavia)

“Women responded by saying that they wished they had been made aware of their rights, especially property rights, earlier. We are now receiving many phone calls from the community, especially children, who would like to know more on the issues addressed.” (Comment from the *Nkhomano Centre for Development, Malawi*)

In Nis, **Yugoslavia**, the *Society for Roma Culture and Education* distributed 1,000 copies of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in the Roma language and organized an open discussion on the theme “Roma Rights Are Human Rights”.

The *Nkhomano Centre for Development* in **Malawi** launched a campaign in the Ndirande Township, in the city of Blantyre, to raise awareness of women’s and children’s rights. By doing so, the Centre hoped to change the attitudes that permit violence against these groups. The Centre trained six community-based human rights educators and produced and distributed leaflets on the subject.

• Translating and disseminating human rights documents

In Bujumbura, **Burundi**, Arcade Bacanamwo, a university teacher, had the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) translated into the Kirundi language and disseminated the document among women living in camps for displaced persons. Audiocassettes of the UDHR were also produced and distributed, and a series of human rights discussions were organized in the camps. Some 200 women participated in the talks. Some of the trained women were designated as human rights focal points and have been reporting periodically to the director of the camp on human rights abuses or protection needs.

In **Malawi**, Ali K. Phiri, a teacher with extensive experience in human rights education in prisons, schools and remote communities, translated the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) and the Constitution of the Republic of Malawi into Yao. The Yao people are the third largest tribal group in the country and are active in the political life of their communities. Phiri produced 1,500 booklets containing the translated UDHR text and 500 copies of the Bill of Rights. He distributed the booklets in various villages and

held discussions with villagers about human rights in general, and how they can secure their own rights in particular.



In the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, *Save the Children of Macedonia* translated a simplified version of the Convention on the Rights of the Child into Macedonian. The document was then disseminated among 220 children living in three orphanages. Lectures and discussions with a representative of the Helsinki Committee on Human Rights in the Republic of Macedonia were organized for the children. The NGO also held an art contest on the theme of human rights. The winning picture was printed on T-shirts and distributed to all the participants. For most of the children involved, this was the first time they had heard about human rights.



The *Youth Watch Society* in Mzuzu, **Malawi**, translated the Bill of Rights of the Constitution of Malawi and the Convention on the Rights of the Child into the Tumbuka language and published a brochure on children's rights. All of these materials were distributed to various human rights NGOs, libraries, schools, religious institutions and to the Tumbuka people in the north of the country. The grant recipient reported that most of the people to whom the materials were distributed had never heard about human rights before; many were particularly interested in learning about children's rights.

- **Organizing workshops, training courses and seminars**

The *Association for Peace and Development of Bukeye*, **Burundi**, organized a seminar entitled "Respect for others' rights is respect for my rights", which was attended by 50 men and women, aged 16 to 30. Discussions among the participants, who were of various ethnic origins, led to adoption of common views on human rights issues. The seminar was followed by a football competition in which each participant won a prize. The success of the competition prompted organizers to hold other matches. NGO representatives reported that "people [hiding in the forest because of the fighting] were coming from the Kiriba forest by the hundreds" to attend the matches – and to learn more about human rights.

The *Mizan Law Group for Human Rights* organized a workshop in December 1998 in Amman, **Jordan**. Seventy-four children and 36 adults attended the workshop, entitled "Child labour: The actual reasons and solution as seen by working children". The Minister for Social Development, who also attended the workshop, committed the Government to finding a way to finance school fees and pocket money for working children in Jordan who were not enrolled in school. As a direct result of the workshop, a

committee called “Children for Children’s Rights”, was established to ensure that applicants for the proposed financial assistance would receive help in meeting administrative requirements.

In **Nepal**, the *Village Women Consciousness Centre*, an NGO based in the Sindhuli district, organized 18 one-day workshops on children’s rights, entitlements and welfare in each of the remote villages in northern Sindhuli. About 900 people, including teenagers and local elected officials, participated in the discussions. The recommendations that emerged from the workshops included: inheritance rights should apply equally to girls and boys; girls should receive the same education as boys; and wives should participate in economic decisions that affect the family and the household.

In early 2000, the *Comité Local de Derechos Humanos* trained 46 internally displaced female heads-of-households in the Guaduas and Carretera regions of **Colombia** on basic human rights issues. The training sessions, which covered such topics as domestic violence, sexual harassment, the main international human rights treaties and Colombian constitutional law, were held in four one-day workshops. The women’s own experience formed the basis of the discussions.

The *Asociación de Salud Integral* of **Guatemala** organized interactive workshops for more than 200 female sex workers on various human rights issues, especially violence and HIV/AIDS. The workshops were held during summer 2000 in La Sala, a shelter for prostitutes, located in a poor district of Guatemala City. The grant recipient established a cooperative relationship with the national women’s rights institution to raise awareness among female sex workers about access to rescue shelters, how to claim violations of their basic rights, and how to prevent such violations.

In Santo Domingo, **Dominican Republic**, *Amigos Siempre Amigos* organized a discussion forum on the human

“Since the project was carried out, more women come to La Sala to enquire about their rights and the rights of their children. This will push us to continue and strengthen the cooperation with other constituencies working in the same area.”

(Comment from the Asociación de Salud Integral, Guatemala)

“The project was successful in raising awareness. A committee was formed to collect information on cases of human rights violations of people living with HIV/AIDS. The outcome was presented to the Supreme Court in March 1999.”

(Comment from UNDP Dominican Republic)

“The participation of local media helped to convey to the wider public that ‘health is a right for everybody.’”

(Comment from the Instituto de Investigación y Desarrollo Social, Uruguay)

rights of people living with HIV/AIDS. The Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) also provided funding for the February 1999 event, which attracted 78 participants, including local human rights and HIV/AIDS NGOs, government officials, UN representatives and individuals living with HIV/AIDS. In a post-forum workshop, people living with HIV/AIDS were given information about their rights.

The *Instituto de Investigación y Desarrollo Social* organized a seminar on human rights and health in December 1998 in Montevideo, **Uruguay**. More than 100 people, mainly from the social service and health fields, participated in the seminar, which focused on discrimination in access to health care, particularly against people living with HIV/AIDS and homeless children. Following the seminar, the grant recipient published and disseminated an outline of the proposals developed during the meeting and other information related to violations of the right to health.

The *Initiative de Développement de l’Entreprenariat Féminin*, based in Gombé, **Democratic Republic of the Congo**, conducted a sensitization campaign on human rights in the suburbs of Kinshasa. The campaign, held in spring 2000 and conducted in the Lingala language,



focused on women's rights. The grant recipient organized a 15-day training session for women, during which videos on human rights were shown and discussed, and various printed materials, including pictures illustrating various articles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, T-shirts and leaflets, were distributed. Some materials had been translated into local languages. More than 200 women benefited directly from the campaign. The use of pictures was essential to the campaign, as most of the beneficiaries were illiterate.

• Producing educational materials

The *Organización Defensa de los Niños Internacional* in **El Salvador** produced audiocassettes of ten fairy tales, each of which illustrated a right of children. Under the supervision of the NGO, children from a poor district of San Salvador wrote the texts and performed the tales. The cassettes were distributed in schools in June 2000 and promoted on radio stations through a communications network that focuses on children's issues.



In Durban, **South Africa**, the *Children's Rights Centre* produced a poster kit that included two full-colour

“The project allowed us to note the high level of awareness of their basic rights among children. They have a clear understanding of the situations in which their rights are violated. In this context, the fairy tales produced tell much about their reality. Accordingly, raising awareness of children's rights among adults should be considered as a priority.”

(Comment from the Organización Defensa de los Niños Internacional, El Salvador)

“The network of distribution that was developed for the project will continue for future projects. We feel that, particularly for remote schools, the library as a central learning resource is vital. We hope that in some small way we have strengthened this.”

(Comment from the Children’s Rights Centre, South Africa)

“For most of the children involved, this was the first opportunity to learn about human rights and the environment in a simple language. It was also a chance for them to express their own ideas on how to protect the environment.”

(Comment from the Green Peace Association, Occupied Palestinian Territory)

posters, in English and Zulu, entitled “Human Rights Begin with Children’s Rights”. The kit also contained a pamphlet on the rights of the child, which included practical activities for adults, children and teenagers. The poster kits were distributed in December 1998 to 300 organizations and institutions, including 100 libraries throughout KwaZulu-Natal, 100 primary schools and 40 rural development organizations. Another 60 kits were given to member and partner organizations that work on related issues, such as child health and education, children with disabilities, children in the legal and penal systems, child labour and street children.

The *Green Peace Association* in Gaza, **Occupied Palestinian Territory**, produced a small book on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in Arabic, which was distributed to 500 pupils, aged 8 to 12, in a refugee camp in Deir el-Balah (Gaza). The group also organized community workshops and seminars on the right to a peaceful and clean environment, and produced promotional materials, such as posters and leaflets, for distribution in schools. The posters were reproductions of five drawings that had been selected through an Association-organized art competition on the themes of living in a safe and clean environment and protecting nature. Thirty students participated in the competition.

In **Mongolia**, the *Liberal Women’s Brain Pool* developed a “Human Rights Teaching Manual”, written in Mongolian, that focuses on women’s rights. One thousand copies were produced and distributed to NGOs and human rights activists/teachers.

• Working in schools

In Pretoria, **South Africa**, the *South African Council for English Education* held a debating tournament in eight high schools that featured rounds focusing on human rights and

the environment and protecting human rights in a democratic government. The 1998 tournament drew about 100 students and elicited such an enthusiastic response that a permanent Debating League was created.



“The full objectives were met and even more: a Debating League was established and another tournament took place during a national event in 2000.”

(Comment from the South African Council for English Education, South Africa)

The NGO *Women in Law and Development in Africa*, based in Manzini, **Swaziland**, organized school events on 10 December 1998 to mark Human Rights Day and to promote a culture of respect for human rights. Pupils from four rural-based schools, representing each of the four regions of the country, performed plays and music and read poetry. A parade was organized along the main streets of the city of Mbabane and students who participated wore brightly coloured T-shirts and carried banners and posters. Students were given copies of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other materials and were asked to return to their schools to teach others about human rights.

The *Culture and Free Thought Association* of Gaza, **Occupied Palestinian Territory**, organized eight workshops and an art exhibition on children’s and women’s rights in remote areas of the region between March and November 2000. Some 350 children, aged 6 to 14, attended the workshops, which included dramas and discussions about human rights in an Islamic context. Two additional

workshops on women's rights and Islam were offered to more than 60 women during the same period.



“The NGO was established in August 1998 and the grant received from the ACT Project helped them to gain confidence and recognition in their community.”

(Comment from OHCHR, Yugoslavia)

The *Committee for Human Rights*, based in Leskovac, **Yugoslavia**, organized an essay contest entitled “Human Rights are My Rights” for pupils between the ages of 11 and 15 in 80 schools in the region. Ten young essayists received awards for their work and the winning essays were published in English and Serbian and distributed to the schools and libraries of the region.

Women Feeling Unity Forum, an NGO based in the Nawalparasi district of **Nepal**, ran a quiz and essay competition on human rights in 18 secondary schools throughout the district. The group also organized a district-level workshop on “Human Rights and Women” during which issues such as property rights, the legalization of abortion, gender equity and preferences for women in education, were discussed. The workshop attracted more than 120 participants from around the district.

Rohit Kumar Gurung, a teacher from the Okhaldhunga district of **Nepal**, visited 15 high schools in his remote district and organized human rights classes for senior students and teachers. Since there are no roads or electricity in the district, Gurung travelled extensively on foot throughout the

area, raising awareness about human rights at market places and convening a major district-level workshop for local officials, NGO representatives and the public.

In the district of Zomba, in **Malawi**, *Youth Net and Counseling* trained teachers and pupils in children's rights and related provisions of the national Constitution. Training also included discussions about sexual relations between teachers and pupils, punishment in schools, cultural rites, and reproductive rights, including the rights of individuals with HIV/AIDS. The group asked schools in the district to set up human rights youth committees to discuss related problems and to designate focal points to deal with any allegations of rights violations.

In 1998, the *Active Youth Initiative for Social Enhancement* launched a human rights awareness programme in the Thyolo District of **Malawi**. A human rights club was set up in each of 13 schools in the district, and a district-wide workshop, organized by the group for 23 teachers and students from post-primary schools, covered such topics as human rights and responsibilities of citizens, national and international human rights instruments, children's and young people's rights and responsibilities, women's rights and gender issues, rights of people with disabilities, democracy, and government institutions.



Moving forward

The United Nations General Assembly unanimously welcomed OHCHR's *ACT Project* and asked the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to continue the Project as a way of supporting NGO-run human rights education activities (General Assembly resolution 56/167 of 19 December 2001). The level of interest and excitement created by the Project among local communities is reflected in the large number of individuals, groups and NGOs applying for grants. *The ACT Project* has clearly demonstrated that it takes only small amounts of money to make a big difference in promoting human rights.

In this context, OHCHR, together with UNDP, has decided to launch the Third Phase of the ACT Project, which will be characterized by increased cooperation between OHCHR and UNDP at field level through the allocation of additional funds on the part of UNDP Country Offices and DPA missions. The Third Phase will therefore expand the ACT Project, involving countries that did not participate in the previous phases.

If you wish to make a donation to the ACT Project, please contact:

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FACTS AND FIGURES

I. FUNDING

Source of funding:	Amount (in US\$):
First Phase	
• Australia	36,092.00
• Denmark	200,000.00
• Norway	65,259.44
	<hr/>
	301,351.44
Second Phase	
• United Nations Foundation	250,000.00
• General Fund for OHCHR Activities	35,000.00
• Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation	24,500.00
	<hr/>
	309,500.00

The remaining balance has been allocated to the Third Phase of the ACT Project and to the production of this brochure.

II. DISTRIBUTION OF GRANTS BY COUNTRY AND AMOUNT DISBURSED

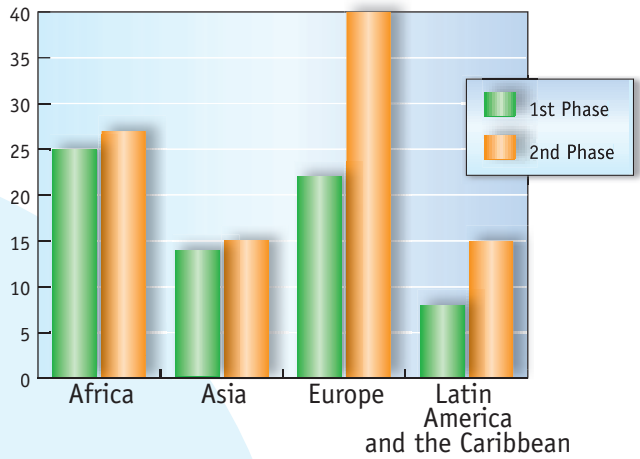
- **First Phase** (69 supported activities in 24 countries)

Country	Number of grants	Total amount (in US\$)
Bangladesh	3	6,000
Benin	2	3,816
Burundi	3	5,950
Cameroon	2	3,760
Colombia	1	2,000
Croatia	3	5,900
Dominican Republic	1	2,000
El Salvador	2	3,985
Georgia	3	5,940
Guatemala	1	1,595
Jordan	2	4,000
Malawi	7	10,650
Mongolia	3	5,493
Nepal	4	8,000
Philippines	2	4,000
Republic of Moldova	4	7,500
Rwanda	1	2,000
Sierra Leone	4	8,000
South Africa	5	9,500
Swaziland	1	2,000
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	3	5,690
Uruguay	1	2,000
Venezuela	2	4,000
Yugoslavia	9	9,820

• **Second Phase** (97 activities supported in 16 countries)

Country	Number of grants	Total amount (in US\$)
Azerbaijan	4	11,990
Burundi	5	14,100
Cambodia	5	15,000
Colombia	5	14,800
Croatia	5	14,700
Democratic Republic of the Congo	5	14,730
El Salvador	5	14,800
Georgia (Abkhazia)	7	15,090
Guatemala	5	15,000
Liberia	7	15,000
Malawi	5	14,600
Mongolia	5	14,700
Occupied Palestinian Territory	5	15,000
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	5	15,000
Togo	5	14,000
Yugoslavia	19	15,000

Number of supported activities by region

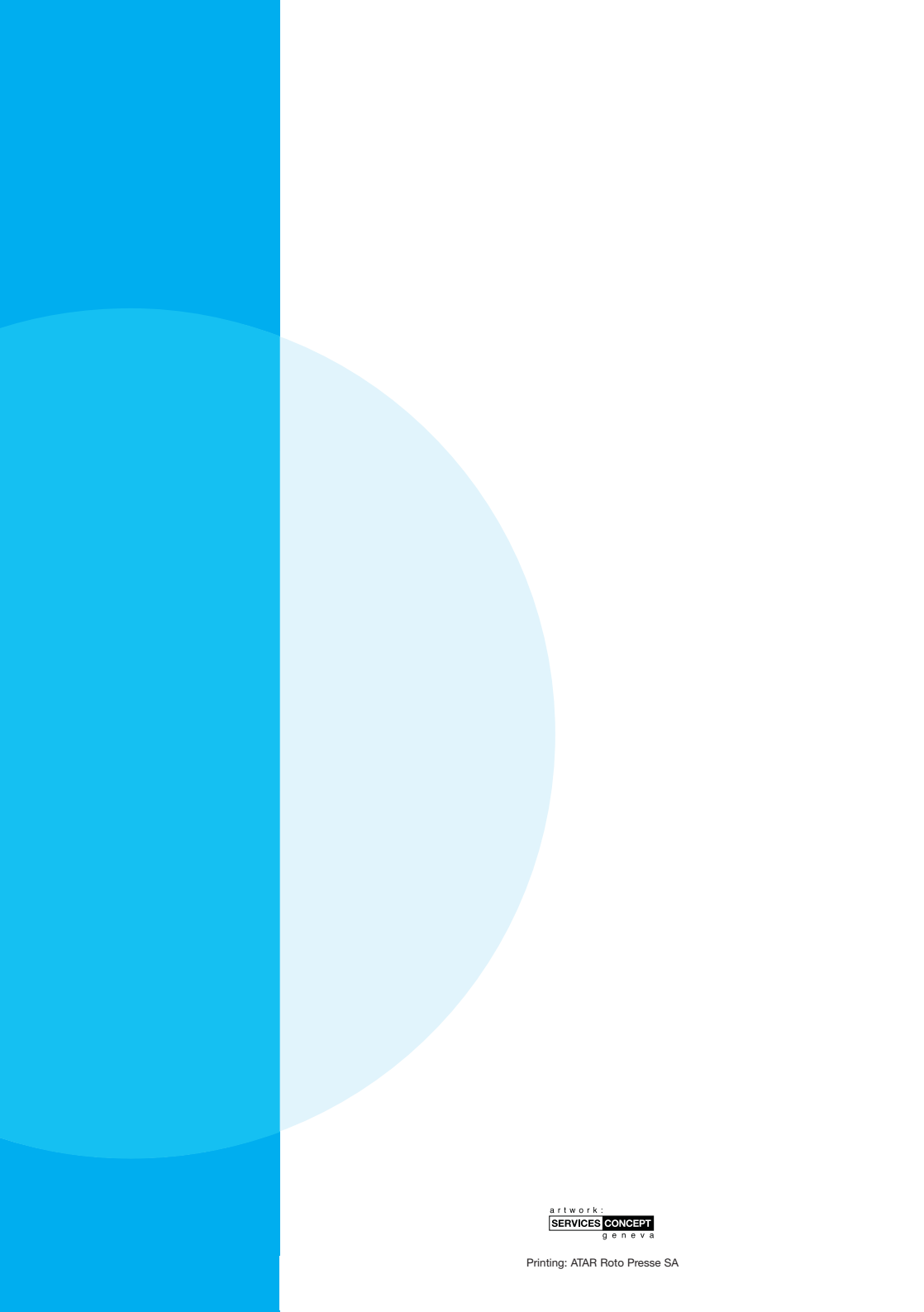


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