

COUNTRY: CROATIA

2A ORGANIZATIONS INVOLVED

Currently, students in compulsory schools in Croatia obtain ICT related skills and knowledge only if they choose an elective subject - Informatics in grades 5 to 8, or if similar extra-curriculum activity is enabled for grades 1 to 4 [1]. Therefore not even the minimum of children's knowledge about appropriate and safe use of internet is obligatory at the time and none of Croatian schools has developed an acceptable use policy regarding the use of ICT and mobile devices in schools.

Education Sector Development Plan 2005-2010 [2] considers equipping people with the skills to use information and communication technology in everyday life as one of the prerequisites for active involvement in an information-based society. In National Curriculum Framework [3] the use of ICT is transversal theme the aim of which is to develop information literacy skills as part of competences for lifelong learning.

Driven by a number of reporting on violations, primarily of parents and activists reporting, the Ombudsman for Children (www.dijete.hr) has repeatedly advocated launching a public debate about media culture and the establishment of a special center for media and children, and particularly emphasized the importance of effective protection of children from potentially harmful content published or broadcasted in electronic media. "The emergence of projects in the field of media culture, through the action of civil society organizations, confirms that there is a wider circle of interested and motivated to strengthen the rights of children in the media, but we still miss a systematic approach to this issue." (Annual report on the work of the Ombudsman for Children, 2011).

However, thanks to many programs initiated by NGOs throughout Croatia great effort can be recognized in raising awareness on media education in Croatia (primarily activities for safer Internet). Pupils in Croatian compulsory primary and secondary schools are producing many media outlets and programs thanks to their teachers' enthusiasm, although without hardly any structural and systematic institutional support.

Ministry of Science, Education and Sport should be responsible for all prevention programs in Croatian schools but only NGOs are working on anti-bullying and prevention programs. The most active NGOs are: Suradnici u učenju, Centar za nestalu i zlostavljanu djecu, Djeca medija, Hrabri telefon. Center for safety on the Internet is formed but not working due to lack of money support.

- [1] "Nastavni plan i program za osnovnu školu," Ministarstvo znanosti, obrazovanja i športa, Zagreb 2006.
- [2] "Education Sector Development Plan 2005-2010", Ministry of Science, Education and Sport, Zagreb, 2005.
- [3] "Nacionalni okvirni kurikulum", Ministarstvo znanosti, obrazovanja i športa, Zagreb 2011.

2B NATIONAL OR LOCAL PROGRAMS OF PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION

PROGRAM 1: CHILDRENS' SAFETY ON THE INTERNET

1. **Title of Program:** Development of school curriculum "Childrens' safety on the Internet"

2. **Organization who carried it out:** Veliki Bukovec Primary School
3. **Program description:** Project Children's safety on the Internet is a 16-month European Union-funded project developed by OŠ Veliki Bukovec, together with partners OŠ Popovača, OŠ "Mladost", OŠ "Gripe" and OŠ "Mato Lovrak", Croatia, financed from grant scheme Further development and implementation of the Croatian Qualifications Framework (Europeaid/131254/ M/ACT/HR). The project is took place in Croatia from August 2013 till December 2014. Project associates include Education and Teacher training agency (Agencija za odgoj i obrazovanje), Croatian academic and Research net (Hrvatska akademska i istraživačka mreža CARNet), Croatian personal data protection agency (Agencija za zaštitu osobnih podataka), Association "Partners in learning (udruga "Suradnici u učenju"), municipality of Veliki Bukovec (Općina Veliki Bukovec), municipality of Mali Bukovec (Općina Mali Bukovec), Brodsko-posavska county, City and Univesity library Osijek, City of Nova Gradiška and Tourism office Nova Gradiška.
4. **Program elements/ components:**

Research phase - pedagogical team of teachers individually and during 2 study visits (Belgium and United Kingdom) explored the existing school curriculum and examples of good practice in the area of online child safety in EU.

Development phase - all teachers are trained in 5 workshops, development and publishing of school curriculum area (compound of 4 courses & sets of materials for students, teachers and parents) for children's safety on the Internet with specified learning outcomes according to the principles of CROQ. During this phase all partner schools are equipped with mobile learning environment with modern tablets, interactive board and wireless access to internet.

Testing and improvement phase follows - developed school curriculum area was tested, evaluated and improved according to students, parents and teachers feedbacks. Research regarding students digital competences and parental knowledge of the capabilities of the Internet was carried out as part of the pilot project.

Dissemination phase - dissemination of project results, final conference and exhibition of students' works.

New school curriculum was tested and implemented in 5 partners schools and in 27 Croatian Primary and Secondary schools.

School curriculum consist of 4 courses addressing one of 4 age groups in primary schools (students aged 7-8, 9-10, 11-12, 13-14 years). Each course have 20 topics organized in 5 units. Pedagogical team prepared suggestion for distribution of topics over grades - 10 topics for each grade but teacher who will implement that curriculum could decide different and choose topics that suit their students better.
5. **Year(s), Duration and Intensity of program:** August 2013 - December 2014 for resources creation, indefinitely for resources use
6. **Number of children who participated and age or grade of children:** 2763 children, aged 7 - 14
7. **Sampling of participants** 5 primary schools
 - Teachers: 218;
 - Students: 2763;
 - Parents: 1357
 - Teachers: 3724
8. **Control group:** N/A
9. **Definition of the problem and term(s) used:**

The project objectives are:

- to develop, according to principles of the Croatian Qualifications Framework (CROQF), learning outcome-based school curriculum area for children's safety on the Internet which will enable holistic approach involving students, parents and teachers on the same goal;
- to develop and implement appropriate pedagogical and didactical model for student centered learning which will make the most of teachers' potentials and new technology strength;
- to improve primary school teachers' educational skills and expertise so they could apply the new methodologies for student centered learning and principles of CROQF in their work;
- to improve students' digital competences and encourage children to assume responsibility for their own safety as much as possible with focus on empowerment, emphasizing responsible behavior and digital citizenship;
- to raise students, teachers, parents and general public awareness and understanding of issues relating to the children's safety online in synergy with the EU policies.

10. Theoretical approach and basis on previous intervention N/A

11. Program evaluation

- Data and conclusion from pilot testing are available on project web petzanet.hr
- Publication: petzanet.hr
- Pedagogical and didactical model for student centered learning
- Curriculum - school curriculum area for children's safety on the Internet
- Teaching/learning materials for each Module include:
 - textbooks for students (40 pages or more), 20 topics/lessons
 - teachers' guides (short - 16 pages, long - around 100 pages), 20 lesson plans
 - guides for parents (40 pages), 20 topics/articles
- Number of multimedia resources and their form is different for each Module:
 - Module 1- 5 games, 6 animated stories, 1 quiz, 2 videos, 42 other learning objects
 - Module 2 - 7 games, 5 animated stories, 4 quizzes, 2 videos, 59 other learning objects
 - Module 3 - 4 games, 5 animated stories, 4 quizzes, 50 other learning objects
 - Module 4 - 5 games, 4 animated stories, 3 quizzes, 61 other learning objects
- 110 videos and animated stories are published on our YouTube channel petzanet.HR https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCu_VqJ6y4XHOT3G4tUFDfw those videos are synchronized or subtitled for Croatian language and some we recorded. For animated stories subtitles in English are provided.

PROGRAM 2: SAFER INTERNET FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

- Title of Program:** National campaigns "Safer internet for children and Youth"

2. **Organization who carried it out:** Suradnici u učenju
3. **Program description:** Raising awareness about eSafety was successfully combined with media literacy
4. **Program elements/ components:** Multimedia exhibition, Teacher guides, Workshops for parents
5. **Year(s), Duration and Intensity of program:** 2009 - 2015, ongoing
6. **Number of children who participated and age or grade of children:** 3765, children aged 6 - 18
7. **Sampling of participants** N/A
8. **Control group:** N/A
9. **Definition of the problem and term(s) used:** N/A
10. **Theoretical approach and basis on previous intervention:** N/A
11. **Program evaluation**
 - a. publications:
 - b. Multimedia exhibitions and resources
 - i. <http://ucitelji.hr/Sigurnijiinternet/Sigurnijiinternet2009.aspx>
 - ii. <http://ucitelji.hr/Sigurnijiinternet/Sigurnijiinternet2010.aspx>
 - iii. <http://ucitelji.hr/Sigurnijiinternet/Sigurnijiinternet2011/Izložba2011.aspx>
 - iv. <http://ucitelji.hr/Sigurnijiinternet/Sigurnijiinternet2012/Izložba2012.aspx>
 - v. <http://ucitelji.hr/Sigurnijiinternet/Sigurnijiinternet2013/Izložba2013.aspx>
 - vi. <http://ucitelji.hr/Sigurnijiinternet/Sigurnijiinternet2014.aspx>
 - vii. <http://ucitelji.hr/Sigurnijiinternet/Sigurnijiinternet2015.aspx>
 - h. Teacher guides
 - i. <https://pogledkrozprozor.wordpress.com/2009/02/26/rijec-urednice-2/>
 - ii. <https://pogledkrozprozor.wordpress.com/2010/02/28/sigurniji-pogled/>
 - iii. <https://pogledkrozprozor.wordpress.com/2011/02/27/zajednicki-pogled/>
 - iv. <https://pogledkrozprozor.wordpress.com/2012/02/29/pogled-u-akciji-2/>
 - v. <https://pogledkrozprozor.wordpress.com/2013/02/28/sigurniji-internet-za-djecu-i-mlade-2013/>
 - vi. <https://pogledkrozprozor.wordpress.com/2014/02/28/bolji-i-sigurniji-internet-za-djecu-i-mlade/>
 - vii. <https://pogledkrozprozor.wordpress.com/2015/02/27/sigurnost-djece-na-internetu-2/>

PROGRAM 3: SIGURNIJI INTERNET

1. **Title of Program:** Sigurniji internet
2. **Organization who carried it out:** Center for Missing and Exploited Children (Centar za nestalu i zlostavljanu djecu) from Osijek
3. **Program description:** Through their web www.cnzd.org they are providing 24/7 help for exploited children focusing primarily on Internet safety programs. Center for Missing and Exploited Children is a nonprofit organization established in 2006 in Osijek, modelled after similar organizations in the world. The motive for the establishment of this kind of organization, the founders of the Center have found in a real lack of state protection of children from sexual exploitation and abuse through the Internet and the spread of child pornography and pedophilia, and other forms of abuse associated with use of the Internet. In November 2013 they introduced new helpline for exploited children. One of their main goals

is to inform children on risks and threats coming from Internet, but they are also offering special software for safer Internet, not just for children but for their parents as well.

4. **Program elements/ components:** N/A
5. **Year(s), Duration and Intensity of program:** ongoing
6. **Number of children who participated and age or grade of children:** N/A
7. **Sampling of participants** N/A
8. **Control group:** N/A
9. **Definition of the problem and term(s) used:** N/A
10. **Theoretical approach and basis on previous intervention** N/A
11. **Program evaluation**
 - c. Publication: www.cnzd.org/

PROGRAM 4: CHILD PROTECTION HUB FOR SOUTH-EAST EUROPE

1. **Title of Program:** Child Protection Hub for South-East Europe project
2. **Organization who carried it out:** Hrabri telefon, Terre des hommes
3. **Program description:** The Child Protection Hub is an interactive platform for professionals. Here we exchange experiences and knowledge, learn from each other, offer and receive support. The Child Protection Hub was initiated by a group of individuals and organizations from 10 different countries, from South East Europe and the wider European region. As a professional community, we strive for a safe, nurturing and inclusive environment for all children. We have come together to realize this ambitious project in order to provide child protection professionals with tools for working and developing, space for constant learning and communication and with an opportunity to become a part of a strong regional community of practice.
4. **Program elements/ components:**

On the Child Protection Hub you can:

LEARN AND EXPLORE: this website brings together resources for quick learning, such as podcasts, videos, and other, as well as webinars, resources for trainers and different materials for independent learning.

CONNECT WITH COLLEAGUES: benefit from our rewarding membership, search for colleagues, vacancies and events in your area.

EXCHANGE INFORMATION: in the forum you can discuss different topics with colleagues from other countries and organizations, you can ask us any professional question or even request an advice on advocacy actions, propose to discuss a difficult case or participate in other case discussions.
5. **Year(s), Duration and Intensity of program:** 2015 - 2018
6. **Number of children who participated and age or grade of children:** N/A
7. **Sampling of participants** N/A
8. **Control group:** N/A
9. **Definition of the problem and term(s) used:** N/A
10. **Theoretical approach and basis on previous intervention** N/A
11. **Program evaluation**
 - a. Publication: <http://childhub.org/>