



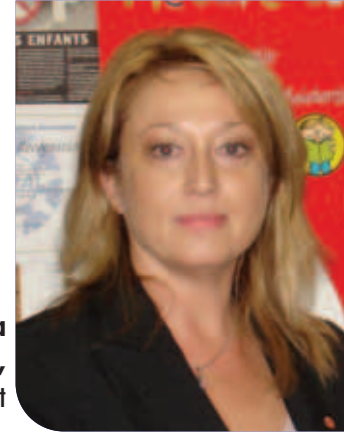
Annual Report 2007



Salvați Copiii
Save the Children Romania



**Camelia
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President



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Executive President

For Save the Children, 2007 was a year of evaluation and change.

17 years after its establishment, the General Assembly of Save the Children members decided to move on to a new phase of development: changing the structure and representativity of the Steering Committee and founding a Communication and Fundraising department. During these years, the organization that raised 16 million Euro for the Romanian children had a substantial contribution to the creation of social, counseling, and educational services which have been innovative for Romania, and to the improvement of the school curricula, the training of children, school counselors, teachers and to the change of legislation and policies in the field of children and family protection.

2007 was also the year when Save the Children celebrated 18 years from the ratification of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child by using its experience and professional capacity for elaborating an assessment of the situation of unaccompanied Romanian children in Italy. The National Authority for the Protection of Childs Rights and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Department for Romanians Living Abroad, requested the involvement of the organization in identifying short and medium term solutions to improve the situation of exploited children.

Last year, Save the Children also enjoyed the appreciation of the National Defense Ministry for the support given to the education of children in Iraq and Afghanistan. Thus, it joined the efforts of the International Save the Children Alliance, which allocated human and financial resources through the Rewrite the Future programme, in order to ensure the access to quality education for 8 million children from 21 countries affected by armed conflicts.

For the first time in 18 years of activity, the funds allocated to the programmes of the organization came mainly from private companies in Romania, amounting to 48%. The partnership of Save the Children organization with the business sector developed so much that, with the companies' support, we were able to ensure the access to education for 1.150 children, information and training for 30.000 children and 1.000 youths, to provide counseling and rehabilitation services for 400 children and training for 1.550 children and more than 300 parents.

The annual fundraising event of the organization, the Festival of Christmas Trees, exceeded its own record by managing to raise 640.000 Euro for providing access to education for the children forced to work or for preventing the illiteracy, exploitation and school dropout. The designers of the trees, the managers of the sponsor companies, the members of the Organization Committee organized an event that will help over 1.500 children/youths to join the 3.400 persons who have already finished their educational route within Save the Children "schools".

In 2008, we are determined to continue to improve the achievements in everything that we do and to continue to work together with the most vulnerable children in the most difficult situations.

We thank our members, volunteers, partners, financers and our sponsors for their generous effort in supporting Save the Children's activities.



Save the Children Romania is a national nongovernmental organization of public utility, unaffiliated politically or religiously, based on the voluntary involvement of its members. Established in 1990, the organization runs programmes in 19 counties, currently has branches in 12 counties and in Bucharest, over 6.000 members and benefits from the voluntary activity of over 1.000 persons, mostly youths.



Our vision is a world in which all children's rights are respected. Save the Children Romania works for:

- a world which respects and values each child;
- a world which listens to children and learns;
- a world where all children have hope and opportunity;
- a world where all children are protected from violence, abuse and exploitation.

Save the Children mission is to promote and fight for children's rights, according to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and the United Nations Declaration on Human Rights.

The International Save the Children Alliance is the world's largest independent global movement that fights for children's rights. It has 27 member organizations and implements programmes in over 120 countries. Save the Children Romania has been an active member of the International Save the Children Alliance since 1997, being the only member organization from South-East Europe.



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We have rights, too

The general objective of the programme that promotes child rights is to offer children and youths the possibility to participate in social projects and actions. We consider that children are aware and assume their rights best when they get directly involved in promoting these rights. Child participation is one of the fundamental principles of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, which stipulates the acknowledgement of all children as socially active persons, capable of expressing their opinions about any issue that is of interest to them.

WORKSHOPS AND DEBATE GROUPS

Approximately 11.000 children from Bucharest and the counties where Save the Children has branches received information about their rights and the measures they can take for these rights to be respected. 50 teachers trained within the ongoing professional training courses and 200 volunteers trained on child rights issues carried out these actions, using interactive work methods that encourage children to participate and express their opinion through role-playing, case studies, discussion groups, media monitoring and creative activities.

"CHILD RIGHTS" ONGOING TRAINING COURSE FOR TEACHERS

The aim of the course is to develop key competencies in the field of child rights awareness and promotion, in order to contribute to changing the mentalities and social behaviors regarding children, to build and develop children's responsibility and civic spirit.

Save the Children extended in Ploiești as well the implementation of the Child Rights course, accredited by the National Centre for Staff Training and Staff Development in Pre-University Education. As a result, 50 teachers from Prahova County acquired key competencies in the field of child rights awareness and promotion and the implementation of the optional course designed for the students attending secondary



education.

"CHILD RIGHTS" NATIONAL CONTEST

The contest is the final moment of a school year in which information sessions and small projects on child rights issues were carried out in Bucharest and Save the Children branches. In 2007, 3.500 children were involved in these activities.

The participants in the national contest, winners of the county phases, presented their projects within the Children's Annual Meeting that took place in the Sărata Monteoru camp, during June 26th- July 1st. The following issues were discussed: a non-violent environment for children, what being a European citizen means, a healthy environment for a healthy body, participation in Students' Councils and the right to education.

CHILDREN'S NATIONAL FORUM

"Equal Chances to Education" was the focus of the 7th Children's National Forum that was organized in 2007. The main objective of the activities carried out was to identify the categories of children with a high risk of school dropout and the situations in which their right to education is not respected.

The activities of the Children's National Forum took place during June 2nd - 5th 2007, bringing together 65 children and youths from Save the Children Romania General Secretariat and from 15 counties, children who are beneficiaries of the Save the Children and partner organizations programmes: the National Union of Organizations of Persons Infected/Affected by HIV/AIDS in Romania, the Anti-AIDS Romanian Association and MASTER Forum. The participants included Roma children, HIV positive children and HIV positive youths, refugee children, economically exploited children and children coming from families in which at least one parent is working abroad.

The children who participated in the Forum wrote presentations based on the information and discussions held within the workshops. The children's conclusions and proposals were presented to the persons responsible with child protection and education, during a debate organized on June 4th.

18 YEARS OF ENFORCEMENT OF THE UN CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD

Around November 20th, Save the Children volunteers marked the celebration of 18 years since the ratification of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child by carrying out informative sessions in 30 schools in Bucharest on the issues of the fundamental principles stipulated in the Convention. In 15 other schools, such sessions were carried out by school counselors, collaborators of Save the Children. On this occasion, the Contest of Child Rights projects was launched for the school year 2007-2008.

CHILDREN'S CARNIVAL

Just like every year around Christmas, Save the Children organized the Children's Carnival on December 13th 2007. The participants were more than 350 children from 50 general schools and colleges from Bucharest, 2 educational centres for the economically exploited children, the centre for the integration of refugee children in the Romanian society, "Roxana" family house and young volunteers from NGOs. The event included exhibitions with art works that promote child rights, made by the beneficiaries of Save the Children Romania programmes, costume contests, poetry and dancing, artistic moments performed by the actors of Excelsior Theatre, and also by children from partner schools, the arrival of Santa Claus, the lightening of the Christmas tree and awarding prizes to all participants.

MATERIALS: the leaflet "Equal Chances to Education", launched at the Children's National Forum.

PARTNERS: Ministry of Education, Research and Youth, the School Inspectorates of Bucharest, Ilfov and towns where Save the Children has branches, National Authority for the Protection of Child's Rights, General Directorate for Social Assistance and Child Protection Sector1, National Council to Fight Discrimination, High Level Group for Romania's Children, the National Audiovisual Council, National Authority for People with Disabilities, Microsoft, 50 schools from Bucharest.



Participation and community involvement - young volunteers

Through the Young Volunteers' Centre, Save the Children Romania promotes participation and volunteering among youths and gives them the opportunity to get actively and efficiently involved in community life. In 2007, 1.000 volunteers participated in the activities of the organization, being encouraged to develop their own ideas through projects coordinated by themselves. Being a model for future generations, they contribute decisively to the promotion of solidarity, through the alternatives of involvement in the social and institutional environment that they suggest.

SELECTION AND TRAINING OF YOUNG VOLUNTEERS

Organized every year, the "Be a Superhero" campaign seeks to promote volunteering activities among youths in secondary schools, high schools and universities. 235 youths from Bucharest and Timiș, Dolj, Iași, Vaslui, Caras-Severin and Suceava branches became new volunteers within the programmes carried out by Save the Children. 7 volunteers were awarded the prize "Volunteer of the Month" (in February, March, April, June, September, October and November) for the active involvement in the activities carried out during the year within the volunteers' monthly meetings.

INVOLVEMENT OF THE VOLUNTEERS IN CAMPAIGNS AND PROGRAMMES

- 40 volunteers carried out the information and awareness-raising campaign on child exploitation through labor called "Get involved in the fight against begging!" - June 12th, in collaboration with representatives of local services;

- 30 volunteers provided information and distributed flyers with the programmes carried out by Save the Children and the activity of volunteering within the National Volunteering Week (April 22nd -28th) and the World Volunteering Week (December 10th -14th), events that gathered 30 NGOs;

- 20 volunteers and 8 children, beneficiaries of the Child's Rights Programme, participated in the campaign for sensitizing public opinion on the issue of missing children (children, their families etc.) - May 25th, International Missing Children's Day, street campaign;

- 60 volunteers were involved in the information campaign on redirecting 2% of the income tax to nongovernmental organizations;

- 20 volunteers continued the information sessions on issues of education for health for the children affected by floods in Călărași County, within the medium term emergency assistance programme carried out by Save the Children;



- 25 volunteers were involved in street campaigns on preventing smoking called “Sweeten Up Your Life”, carried out within the Education for Health programme;
- Within the “Sea, our only addiction” campaign, 50 volunteers from Save the Children branches and the General Secretariat carried out information activities for youths, with the aim of reducing the drug consumption and making them aware of its negative effects;
- On the World Day for Prevention of Child Abuse - November 19th, 13 volunteers staged a play on child rights violation, at the Romanian Radio Broadcasting Hall;
- During May 1st - 31st, 75 volunteers from Bucharest and Mureş informed the public on “The Month of Open Hearts” - a fundraising campaign for the economically exploited children launched by Cora Hypermarket and carried out in partnership with ILO-IPEC;
- 75 Save the Children volunteers participated in the **Annual Volunteers' Meeting** (December 13th), where they presented and evaluated the activities carried out by volunteers during the year;
- During June 19th - 23rd, 25 volunteers were involved in activities carried out on the occasion of the **World Refugee Day**, through information sessions in schools, campaigns carried out in the street and in the Mall Bazaar, where refugee children exhibited their own creations;

- During March 12nd - 21st, on the occasion of the **Day against Racial Discrimination**, 15 volunteers were involved in information sessions in schools and street campaigns;
- 30 volunteers were involved in carrying out campaigns for trafficking and abuse prevention in schools and high schools.

PARTNERS: Ministry of Education, Research and Youth, Youth Centre, Faculty of Sociology and Social Assistance, ARAS, Artifex University, Bucharest Youth Directorate, ProVobis National Volunteering Centre, ILO-IPEC, Cora Hypermarket, schools and high schools

INTERNATIONAL PARTICIPATION

- During March 25th - 29th, the training on „Children's participation” gathered representatives of Save the Children from 4 countries and members of the European Commission and European Parliament. The young volunteers, trained by the accompanying adults, presented the participants the ways in which children and youths can be involved in the activities that they carry out. Romania was represented by the volunteer Gabriela Vasile.
- Save the Children Romania was represented by Georgiana Savalache in the European Parliament Joint Hearing - Brussels. The results of the consultation on the European strategy regarding child rights were presented in front of the European Parliament.



The Information, Documentation and Research Centre on the Rights of the Child

The aim of the Information, Documentation and Research Centre on the Rights of the Child is to collect useful information for the documentation of the advocacy activities for the improvement of the situation of children in Romania; its general objective is to increase the level of information regarding the observance of child rights among the decision-making factors responsible with child rights promotion and protection at local, national and international level. In 2008, an important component was the elaboration of the study on the impact of parents' migration on the psychological and emotional development and school achievements of the children left at home.



THE GLOBAL CAMPAIGN FOR EDUCATION - 2007

In 2007, the campaign promoted the message “**Together for Education!**”, symbolizing the necessity to mobilize and join the efforts of all the factors that can contribute to ensure the access to education and professional training for every person (children and adults). During the activities carried out in Romania, a special accent was placed on the development, multiplication and promotion of the educational programmes created to support the persons for whom the access to education was and still is reduced, for the persons who were either not registered in the education system or dropped out of school, exceeding the age limit for the integration in mainstream educational system (“**Second Chance**” programmes).

During March and April, approximately 4.000 students from all over the country participated in activities that resulted in the elaboration of the Student Files on the access to education and recommendations addressed to decision-making factors. During April 23rd-29th, schools all over the country housed debates through which more than 80 local personalities learned about the students' needs and opinions from the Student Files, which they received.

The Human Chains “**Together for Education!**”

On April 27th 2007, between 11.00 and 12.00 hrs., Save the Children organized the human chain “**Together for Education!**” in Victoria Square. The event gathered approximately 750 students and teachers from 33 school schools, as well as representatives of the Government, school unions, NGOs and international bodies. Information and promotion were disseminated; the official authorities and mass media received student files and a series of recommendations

with the view to developing the educational field. In parallel with this event, approximately 14.500 students and teachers from all over the country created human chains in the school yards, around schools or in public places.

At the end of the event, an open letter was submitted to the Ministry of Education, Research and Youth whose purpose was to bring to the attention of the main decision-making factors in the educational field the problems and need to develop “**Second Chance**”- type programmes.

THE RESEARCH “**THE IMPACT OF PARENTS' MIGRATION ON THE CHILDREN LEFT AT HOME**”

During June - July, Save the Children carried out the qualitative study “**The Impact of Parents' Migration on the Children Left at Home**” in three locations in Moldova: Iași, Suceava and Piatra Neamț, capital cities of the counties reported as having the biggest number of children with parents who left to work abroad. Interviews and focus groups were organized with approximately 60-70 students who have one parent or both parents left to work abroad, with 40 persons who take care of these children, 40 teachers, 8 school counselors and 6 representatives of social services.

The analysis of the conclusions and the formulation of recommendations took place on October 17th, within the Roundtable “**The impact of parents' migration on the children left at home**”, which gathered representatives of the institutions responsible for promoting and implementing child rights.

The study showed that the relation which the parents left to work abroad manage to establish and maintain with the children left at home has a crucial role in the attitude and behavior that the child will have during the parents' absence. The study also revealed that there are children over 13-14 years, who are considered almost mature by their parents, for which reason they are left alone, without grandparents or other relatives. They do not benefit from a proper family environment for their normal psychological and emotional development and the risks of dropping out of school, committing offences or using drugs are higher. There are also problems of communication between children and the grandparents who are supposed to take care of them, which seem to be caused by the very high difference between the system of values adopted by each of them and the different lifestyle.

Following this qualitative research, Save the Children had the initiative of developing complex programmes of assisting and supporting the children who are left in the country without one or both parents; the programmes will be implemented in Caraș-Severin branch starting from 2008, in partnership with “**Miron Costin**” school from Suceava and “**Vasile Conta**” school from Iași.



THE LAUNCH OF THE RESEARCH REPORT "STUDENTS' OPINIONS ON THE IMPORTANCE AND OBSERVANCE OF CHILD RIGHTS IN ROMANIA"

On March 21st 2007, Save the Children launched the research report "Students' Opinions on the Importance and Observance of Child Rights in Romania" at School no. 135, "Stefan cel Mare", from Bucharest, in the presence of tens of students, teachers and school counselors from 12 schools, high schools and vocational school from Bucharest and the representatives of the institutions with responsibilities in the field of education.

The conclusions and proposals made by students and teachers were submitted to the Ministry of Education, Research and Youth to be taken into consideration when elaborating strategies and programmes that aim to reform the educational system.

Following the debates, Save the Children carried out in May-August an analysis of the way in which the Students' Councils are formed and how they function; the output of the analysis was a leaflet with useful advice for all students, containing information on the organization and communication within this structure of representation. The leaflet will be disseminated in schools starting with next year.

18.000 CHILDREN INVOLVED IN ACTIVITIES

- 4.000 children were involved in the activities carried out in schools during the Global Campaign for Education;
- 700 students formed the human chain "Together for Education!" organized next to the Government's building;
- more than 13.500 students formed human chains around schools or in public places;

- 44 students participated in the seminar that launched the research report "Students' Opinions on the Importance and Observance of Child Rights in Romania";

- 45 children participated in the focus groups on the development of Students' Councils and 16 children participated in the workshop organized on this subject within the "Child Rights" National Camp ;

- 150 children participated in the seminars and focus groups organized by the Centre.

PUBLICATIONS:

- The research report "Impact of Parents' Migration on the Children Left at Home", disseminated to the experts in the field of child rights and mass-media representatives.

- o The informative electronic bulletin "Child Rights Monitor", distributed to 500 teachers, school counselors, representatives of local and central authorities, NGOs and international organizations.

PARTNERS: Ministry of Education, Research and Youth, The National Authority for the Protection of Child Rights, The National Agency against Trafficking, Bucharest School Inspectorate , Bucharest Resource Centre and Educational Assistance , City Centre for Psychological and Pedagogical Assistance, The Institute for Educational Sciences, The General Directorates for Social Assistance and Child Protection from Neamț, Suceava and Iași Counties, School Inspectorates from the Neamț, Suceava and Iași Counties, Federation of Free Education Unions, Step by Step Centre for Education and Professional Development, Education 2000+ Centre, "Together" Agency for Community Development and the Young Rroma People's National Network, Children's Smiles Association, Galați, Prison Fellowship Foundation, Cluj Napoca, "Miron Costin" School, Suceava, School No. 36 "Vasile Conta", Iași, School No. 135 "Stefan cel Mare", Bucharest, Radda Barnen, the Information and Documentation Centre on the Rights of the Child from Moldova, Global Campaign for Education.



Education for health

When asked about the subjects of interest for them, 73% of secondary school students and 77.8% of high school students identified the problem of drug use as a subject of very high interest. (Research report - Students' Opinions on the Importance and Observance of Child Rights in Romania, elaborated by Save the Children in 2006). Although the youths' interest in this subject is high, the information they receive through different channels is not always accurate. Through the programme Education for Health, Save the Children seeks to inform youths on the adoption of a healthy lifestyle by reducing the risk behaviors and emphasizing the prevention of drug use and the reduction of the incidence of sexually transmitted among youths.

TRAINING SESSIONS

80 young volunteers within the Education for Health project carried out by Save the Children participated in specialized courses and became youth trainers in the field of drug use.

Approximately 200 trained volunteers carried out information sessions using the *peer education* method for 14,000 students from 216 schools from the rural areas of Bucharest-Ilfov, Caraş-Severin, Constanţa, Hunedoara, Timiş, Iaşi and Neamţ. At the same time, approximately 3.500 students from urban areas were trained according to the 8 hour training kit that volunteers apply differently for grades V - XII.

The Education for Health programme, which has a comprehensive approach, is addressed to all those who contribute to the education of children. Thus, 960 parents from rural areas were informed on the abuse of substances and the creation of a family environment where risk behaviors are not present. 1,120 teachers from rural areas were trained on carrying out activities for promoting a healthy behavior among students. Such sessions were also organized for 80 school librarians, 40 community police officers and 40 community nurses.

THE SEA, OUR ONLY ADDICTION, 3rd EDITION

For the third consecutive year, Save the Children volunteers carried out the campaign for drug use prevention entitled "The Sea, our only addiction" in youth resorts on the Black Sea

coast (Costineşti, Mangalia, Vama Veche and 2 Mai). During July 20th - August 16th 2007, 50 volunteers informed 12,500 teenagers on the risks at which they expose themselves following the abuse of legal and illegal drugs and on healthy ways of spending their free time.

1.500 youths were involved in sports competitions, as a healthy alternative of spending their free time, competitions organized with the support of the sports teacher within the volunteers' team.

Following the media partnerships closed with Radio Vox and CoolGirl magazine, the total number of youths who received information on ways of spending the free time, which do not imply risk behaviors, reaches 96.000 youths.

OTHER RESULTS:

- 40 partners, local and central authorities, joined Save the Children for the proper implementation of this project.
- Approximately 250 students from camps or special schools participated in interactive sessions and extracurricular activities for promoting a healthy behavior.
- The programme will continue at a local level in most counties, through partnerships closed with the local authorities.



**ANTI-SMOKING CAMPAIGN
"SWEETEN UP YOUR LIFE!"**

On the World Day of Fight against Smoking, May 31st, Save the Children initiated a pilot campaign, through which a message of support was sent to the youths who want to quit smoking and at the same time it congratulated the youths who choose not to use this legal drug. The volunteer teams offered the interested youths alternatives to tobacco use, and the youths who decided to quit smoking received a candy in exchange for a cigarette. The young non-smokers who discussed the reasons that made them not to start smoking with Save the Children volunteers also received candies.

MATERIALS:

- 3000 copies of the set of fliers on the subject of substance abuse and HIV transmission;
- 3000 multimedia CDs „Drugs, the big trick”;
- 3000 educational leaflets „Drugs, the big trick”;
- 2000 educational leaflets “It is time to be honest”;
- 10.000 informative leaflets “The Sea, our only addiction”;
- 1250 posters;
- 3000 informative fliers “Sweeten up your life”;



- informative and promotional materials for the campaign “The Sea, our only addiction” (leaflets, stickers, tee-shirts, backpacks, caps, banners, ad prints, pens etc.).

PARTENERS: The Ministry of Public Health - the Global Fund to Fight HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, The Ministry of Education, Research and Youth, Costinești Municipality, ARAS, UNOPA, UNAIDS, Alaturi de Voi, Secs, Accept organizations, HIV/AIDS Romanian Centre, Romanian Angel Appeal, ANPDC, DGASPC Galați, Brăila, Constanța, schools, high schools from Bucharest and Ilfov Counties, Ilfov School Inspectorate.

Support for HIV positive children Preventing the Transmission of HIV/AIDS among institutionalized children

After 1990, many HIV positive children were abandoned in child protection institutions. Although they benefited from medical treatment, their social and school integration was difficult and incomplete, hence the difficulties they currently have as teenagers, when managing relations with persons of their age.

Save the Children carries out programmes for the social and school integration of HIV positive children and teenagers, also addressing to vulnerable categories through information and awareness raising programmes in order to prevent the spread of HIV virus and to the general public, in order to reduce discrimination.

RESULTS:

232 children from placement institutions or centers in 7 Counties (Constanța, Dâmbovița, Dolj, Galați, Giurgiu, Hunedoara and Vaslui) received information about general precautions and participated in educational sessions on health issues. 126 of these beneficiaries are HIV positive.

21 volunteers were trained and selected to work with HIV positive children in child protection centers from Dolj and

Dâmbovița.

4 HIV positive children were integrated in school in Dâmbovița County and benefited from psychological counseling provided by the Counseling Centre accredited in this County.

95 HIV positive children spent their free time together in a creative way (trips, shows, preparing for various holidays, making decorative objects, participating in the Children's National Forum, Children's National Camp and Children's

Carnival) and other institutionalized children.

30 HIV positive children benefited from psychological counseling in order to improve their relations with the people around them.

48 experts (social assistants, psycho-pedagogues, psychologists, doctors) from 20 institutions of child protection in 5 Counties (Brăila, Constanța, Dâmbovița, Galați, Hunedoara) were trained by experts on issues such as sexual education, attitudes for preventing ITSs and drug use, birth control methods, communication with children and youths on these subjects and legislative aspects regarding the discrimination of HIV positive persons.

15 volunteers participated in carrying out awareness raising activities on discrimination situations with which HIV positive persons have to deal frequently: The “**Human Ribbon**” and “**I do what I want, but I know what I do**”, campaigns carried out in partnership with PSI, ARAS; SECS, “Alături de Voi”, Youths for Youths, UNOPA, Ministry of Health, “Matei Balș” Institute, UNAIDS, Romanian Angel Appeal, Terre des Hommes, Accept, People Development Foundation, within the national campaign of HIV/AIDS prevention entitled “**Open your Heart, Learn to Love**”.

ROXANA HOUSE

Functioning as a family house where the child-adult affective relationship is an essential factor for the child's physical and psychological proper development, Roxana House is a model of good practices regarding the alternatives to institutionalization for 7 HIV positive children. Save the Children supports the integration of children and youths in the project within the educational system, the development of the youths' skills, in order to have an easier access to the labor market and, for the children, playing in the playgrounds, together with other children from the neighborhood for children. In 2007, 2 of the children living in Roxana House were integrated in the mainstream educational system. All the children participated in educational and leisure time activities together with other HIV negative children (being enrolled in swimming and skating courses, making March amulets and greeting cards, decoration objects for Easter and Christmas, watching theatre plays and shows, participation in the Children's National Forum, Children's National Camp and Children's Carnival).



HIV prevention among the Roma communities from Dâmbovița, Timiș and Vrancea Counties

The goal of the project, which is part of the Programme for Romania funded by the Global Fund to Fight HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, is to inform the Roma youths, especially the aged 14-25 years, on the risks of HIV infection. The project started on July 1st 2007 and will be carried out for two years; at least 5.000 persons will be informed.

For the proper functioning of the project, training courses were organized for 4 categories of persons involved in its implementation: Roma health mediators, community nurses, Roma leaders and volunteers - teachers from schools with a high number of Roma students from the three Counties. The courses were carried out with the support of the county public health authorities, partners in the project.

In the beginning of the project, 500 questionnaires were applied

in order to find out the Roma people's level of information and the dissemination of information started in communities - almost 900 persons benefited from it until December 2007; a poster, a flyer of the project and some promotional materials were printed to support the teams in the Counties.

Although the project is mainly addressed to Roma people, in order to avoid segregation, persons from other ethnic groups were also included in the groups that participated in the information sessions, especially in schools.

MATERIALS:

Flyer and poster "HIV does not forgive. Protect yourself!"

PARTNERS:

Public health authorities and School Inspectorates from Dâmbovița, Timiș and Vrancea Counties.



Counseling for the Abused, Neglected and Trafficked Children

PREVENTING VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN - „VIOLENCE LEADS TO VIOLENCE” CAMPAIGN

A legislative framework that clearly stipulates the ban of physical and humiliating punishments on children ensures only to a small extent the child's protection against such inadequate behaviors. The adults responsible with raising and educating children, invested with trust and love by children, are the ones causing pain to children, through their abuse on them. Ending physical and humiliating punishments cannot be achieved only by a legislative reform. It is necessary to change the attitudes, according to which punishments are accepted and used, and also to identify and overcome the conditions that hinder or represent an impediment to this change.

RESULTS:

1. Developing information and promotion materials and resources on the effects of violence on children and alternative education methods.

- TV and radio spots, posters, brochures, flyers, translated handbooks and brochures: “Eliminating Physical and Humiliating Punishments of Children - Action Handbook” and “Save you and Save Me”, elaborating a work handbook for parents. The aim of promoting and distributing these materials was to influence a large and heterogeneous target group, since the child disciplining „methods” involving violence and

humiliating treatments are still used by many parents and teachers.

- Developing an online resource for parents - www.educatiefaraviolenta.ro website.

- Broadcasting the spot „Violence leads to violence” on TV 1159 times (during June-October, on 10 national TV stations). Broadcasting the spot at Hollywood Multiplex movie theatre (broadcasted 957 times, watched by 54.000 viewers).

- Broadcasting the radio spot 373 times on 8 radio stations (among which EuropaFM, RadioTotal, Radio Romania).

- o Distributing the information materials. In total, 15.000 brochures, flyers and posters were distributed through the Info-health network, during August-December, in the 42 centers of the network (hospitals and clinics from Bucharest and the entire country) and other 30.000 materials (posters, brochures and flyers) have been distributed directly by the General Secretariat and through the branches.

- o The website www.educatiefaraviolenta.ro, created for the parents, was accessed by 19.000 visitors.

- o Promoting the campaign online, on 33 websites, with a number of 2.186.636 visitors.



2. Promoting the campaign message and the principles of positive education within certain events.

Workshops

“How to raise your child better”, on November 9th, within the National Psychology Exhibition, in which more than 100 persons participated.

Public debates in which 500 persons participated (parents, children, teachers, students, school counselors, police officers, social assistants, journalists, representatives of child protection authorities, school inspectorates, municipalities, local councils, academic education, church). The debates were organized in Piatra Neamț (“Who is raising my child - the impact of labor force external migration on children's education and development”), in Târgu Mureș (“Traditional education versus positive education”), in Iași (“Traditional education versus positive education”) and in Focșani (“Educating parents for children's benefit”).

Training for trainers: „Educating children without violence - positive discipline” for 38 persons working in pre-university system, psychologists and school counselors from Bucharest, Iași, Suceava, Neamț, Mureș, Timiș, Dolj, Argeș. The trainers were experts from Romania and Dominique Plateau, Regional Counselor for child abuse and exploitation prevention programmes in South-East Asia and Pacific, Save the Children Sweden, Joan Durantt - University Professor, Canada. These trainers have trained 272 parents, 234 teachers and 24 other experts (social assistants, doctors, nurses), 343 children and 16 students.

Training and information sessions held with parents, pupils and teachers in schools and kindergartens from Bucharest, attended by 298 parents, 296 teachers and 900 pupils and within the branches for 4.842 children, 230 parents and 285 teachers (Suceava, Argeș, Timiș, Mureș, Neamț, Hunedoara, Caraș-Severin, Iași, Constanța Counties).



3. Presence in the media through articles and within radio and TV shows.

- Articles in the written media: 8 articles in specialized magazines and 20 reports in local and central newspapers.

- TV shows: 25 participations in shows (12 on national TV channels: Realitatea, Antena 3, B1, TVR, Romantica, Antena 2, Euforia and 13 on 7 local TV channels: TVR Cluj, Tele M, Neamț 1, TV Banat, TVR Timișoara, TV Alpha and TVS Pitești).

- Radio shows: 10 radio shows on 7 local radio stations (Radio Bucharest, Radio Itsy-Bitsy, Radio Iași, Radio Reșița, West Radio City Timișoara, Radio Timișoara, Radio Guerilla).

MATERIALS:

- Study on the level of acknowledgement of the legislation in the field of child protection among the general public specialists. The study showed that only 10% of the questioned people are aware of the legal provisions regarding the promotion and protection of the rights of the child and only 13% of those who knew of cases of abused notified an institution responsible with solving such cases.

- Support materials for training the trainers and specialists: training kit “Educating children without violence - positive discipline”, translated handbooks and brochures („Eliminating Physical and Humiliating Punishments of Children - Action Handbook” and “Save you and Save Me”), the work handbook for parents.

COUNSELING AND REHABILITATION OF THE CHILD VICTIM OF ABUSE AND TRAFFICKING

The goal of the project is to provide counseling and rehabilitation services for the children victim of abuse, neglect and trafficking and to their families. The program also aimed at increasing the parents' and specialists' level of knowledge, in order to reduce the risk factors (conflicts and abuses within the family, in schools and other institutions) and to promote the values of the positive education.

RESULTS:

307 children attended the Counseling Centers (133 cases of physical, emotional or sexual abuse, 9 cases of neglect, 60 cases of trafficking, 42 cases of exploitation through labor, 63 cases of other behavior disorders) and 210 parents were counseled for correcting certain inadequate behaviors towards their children. Information programmes were organized for 3606 children, 163 teachers, 419 parents, 277 specialists and training classes for 25 community police officers.

In October, 5 resources centers for parents were founded in Bucharest, Iași, Suceava, Târgu Mureș and Timișoara. Meetings were organized in the rural areas with the local authorities from 6 villages and 2 other towns from Iași County where information materials have been distributed and information sessions were organized.

Children's Clubs were also organized, where interactive sessions were organized, as well as sessions for promoting positive relations between children and adults. 107 parents benefited from information and counseling, out of whom 5 were from rural areas. 56 children participated in specific activities within the Children's Clubs. MISSING

CHILDREN'S DAY - MAY 25th

According to the data provided by the Criminal Investigation Department, Tracking Service, within the first half of 2007, 879 minors were reported missing in Romania. 873 children were found, 67 aged up to 10 years and 806 aged 10-18 years.

On May 25th, Save the Children organized a public debate in partnership with the General Police Inspectorate, in which 84 persons participated: teachers, pupils, volunteers and representatives of the General Police Inspectorate - Criminal Investigation Division and the Institution for Crime Prevention and Research, the Romanian Center for Missing/ Sexually Exploited Children, Ministry of Education.

In Bucharest, 300 posters have been displayed in common transportation means and stations and 100 posters inside schools, in collaboration with the Police Department. Save the Children representatives participated in the video-conference held on the May 25th, together with partners.

Within the Iași, Timiș, Dolj, Târgu-Mureș, Suceava, Hunedoara, Vaslui, Constanța, Brașov, Reșița and Neamț branches round tables were organized with the local public authorities, high school students and street information campaigns were carried out.



STUDIES, RESEARCHES ON TRAFFICKING IN CHILDREN

- The research on the efficiency of the Transit Centers organized by Save the Children within the PIN 415 and PIN 3 Programmes of National Interest for the assistance, protection and rehabilitation of the children victims of trafficking or at risk of being trafficked. 11 out of the 12 centers established at a national level are functional and maintained the object of activity stipulated within the initial project. 5 centers (Iași, Galați, Neamț, Mehedinți and Suceava) carry out exclusively the activities stipulated in the centers' statutes. The other 6 centers (Arad, Satu Mare, Oradea, Bucharest, Timișoara and Botoșani) provide other types of services as well. Most of the cases - 559 of the 661 registered cases - are within the centers from Arad, Oradea and Bucharest. Timiș, with 1 case, and Suceava and Giurgiu- with no cases assisted at all are ranked last.

- The research report - **Children Speak Out: Trafficking Risk and Resilience in Southeast Europe**. The research was carried out in Kosovo region and in 6 countries from Southeast Europe: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Montenegro, Romania and Serbia and presents the children's own perception of their lives, in their families, with their peers and the wider community. 618 children from the region have been involved in the research through individual interviews and group discussions. Moreover, 258 specialists (representatives of the government and of the civil society) participated and shared their points of view regarding the phenomenon of trafficking in children.

- Translation of the **Handbook for specialists Combating Child Trafficking for Sexual Exploitation** - training guide for professionals. The handbook is the result of the third phase of the program for combating trafficking in children for sexual exploitation, elaborated by ECPAT Europe Law Enforcement Group, Europe regional group, coordinated by ECPAT Netherlands. The handbook has been elaborated within a partnership between the Western and Eastern European counties.

- **“Developing a methodology of identifying and supporting the children victims of trafficking”**. The **psychological profile and specific indicators used in recognizing a child victim of trafficking**. The research report provides information on the identification and inter-institutional collaboration procedures that exist in the partner countries and means of improving them.

PARTNERS:

“Marius Ivan” Foundation, Y&R, the Romanian Television Society, the Romanian Radio-broadcasting Society, Hollywood Multiplex, Info-Health distribution network, Ideal Décor magazine, Scholar Inspectorates from Iași, Neamț, Suceava, Mureș, Timiș, Argeș, Cluj, Bucharest, Vrancea Counties, CNFP - National Training Center for Pre-academic Staff, MECT, Bucharest General Police Inspectorate, Crime Research and Prevention Department, National Center for Mental Health, Prima TV, National TV, N24, Favorit TV, National Geographic, National Audiovisual Council.

THE CODE OF CONDUCT FOR THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN FROM TRAFFICKING AND SEXUAL EXPLOITATION IN TRAVEL AND TOURISM

Save the Children Romania, with the support of Respect Austria, OSCE and the Romanian Ministry of Internal Affairs - The National Agency against Trafficking, organized a training course for the specialists from the tourism and hospitality industry on the public-private cooperation for preventing trafficking and the implementation of the Code of Conduct for the protection of children from trafficking and sexual exploitation.

OBJECTIVES OF THE COURSE:

- Training a group of 15 Romanian experts who, in their turn, will disseminate the information received to the professionals from the hospitality industry in Romania.
- Introducing several modules from the Code of Conduct in the curriculum of the tourism schools, as well as in training curriculum for the professionals working in the hospitality industry.
- Developing several plans for future activities, in collaboration with the participants, for involving the youths, the students from the tourism faculties and other professionals working in the hospitality industry in preventing child sexual tourism.

Most of the participants were tourism teachers, member of the various professional associations from the hospitality industry and other professionals working in the tourism field.

PARTNERS:

National Agency against Trafficking, OSCE, Respect - Austria.

Activities in the Local Branches

Argeş

1300 children received information on child rights, within the **UN Convention and Child Rights Promotion Programme**; the debates also approached their responsibilities within the family and at school. The teachers were trained in establishing practical methods of promoting child rights during the Civic Education classes. 10 volunteers participated in organizing the sessions with the children and the teachers.

Caras-Severin

Activities within the Global Campaign for Education were carried out in 7 schools (elementary schools no. 2, 6, 7, 12 and "Mircea Eliade", "Traian Vuia" and "Sabin Pauta" High Schools from Reşita). A human chain - **"Together for education"** - was organized in all the schools mentioned above, in which more than 1200 children, 80 teachers, 200 parents, 9 representatives of the local authorities participated. The pupils compiled files on the importance of education, cases of violations of the right to education, they made drawings, paper chains, and wrote letters addressed to politicians/public persons. 2 meetings were organized between the pupils and the representatives of the local administration, where the questions raised by the children have been discussed.

Dolj

Continuing the activities started within the previous years, Craiova branch carried out the project **"Social benefits for HIV infected children"**, in collaboration with Victor Babeş Hospital. The 80 children included in the program received monthly packages with food, fruits, vitamins, liver protective medicine, objects of personal use etc. The Global Fund Programme for HIV/AIDS prevention in the institutions was implemented both at the placement center from Balş, Olt County, and in the schools from Craiova and Rast, where meetings with teachers and exhibits with children's works on education for health themes were organized. The Anti-Drug Agency and Dolj Police Department were partners in these activities.

Hunedoara

Hunedoara branch continued the **Educational Program of the Petrila Day Center**. The aims of the activities carried out within the Centre are to develop the normal social abilities for the 128 children coming from 64 families and also to help them understand better the issues learnt at school. The goals were: developing certain skills (regarding personal hygiene, household activities, developing manual abilities, developing independent like skills etc.), organizing playful and therapeutic activities (role playing, movement, rule games), providing tutoring, educational counseling and psychological support, screening educational movies.

Constanţa

In 2007, Mangalia branch had an important role in carrying out the **"The Sea, our only addiction"** campaign, organizing debates in schools on various education for health themes, and also direct information actions among the youths at the seaside. The pupils and teachers invited to the **"Round table of health talk"** had as task disseminating information on health issues at the level of the schools involved in the project.

Mureş

The objective of the programmes carried out in the branch was to solve several major problems that children confront with: ethnical and social discrimination, children at risk of dropping out of school, children in difficulty within their biological family or their life in the streets, children living or working in the street, meeting certain social - affective needs, abused, ill-treated, neglected children. The volunteers acting within the branch were involved in carrying out the campaign **"The Month of Open Hearts"**, organized in collaboration with Cora Hypermarket from Cluj-Napoca. Educational Center children and youths coming from disadvantaged communities - the **"Second Chance"** programme in Cluj Napoca was established with the funds raised within the campaign. The center was arranged. Materials and schools supplies were purchased for equipping the centre.

Neamţ

Following its main objective of promoting the acknowledgement and compliance with the rights of the child, the Neamţ branch carried out in 2007 activities for promoting the UN Convention on the rights of the child: drawing competition on the theme of **"Child Rights"**, organized in 15 urban and rural schools, in which 150 children, 46 teachers and 15 volunteers participated, the round table on **"18 years since the ratification of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child"**.

Suceava

"Children left alone at home - a problem that concerns us all!" is an information and awareness raising campaign carried out within communities on the legal possibilities which the parents who leave the country for working abroad have in order to ensure the physical and legal protection of the children who are left in the country. The campaign will also be carried out in 2008. 10 volunteers, 230 pupils from 10 schools, 15 teachers and more than 30 specialists in the field of child protection were involved in developing and implementing the campaign.

Timiş

Timiş branch developed the following projects: the Counseling Center for the abused, neglected, trafficked child, the Parents Resource Center, Education for Health and prevention of HIV infection within the Roma communities, **"Child Trafficking Response Programme in Southeast Europe"** and the **Center of Young Volunteers**. The **Educational Center for the children exploited through labor** was a new project, whose objective is to withdraw children from labor by providing them with access o education, counseling, medical and nutritional services; their parents are also supported, being provided with social services, counseling and training. 127 economically exploited children aged 3-18, boys and girls, and their families were the beneficiaries of this programme.

Vaslui

Vaslui branch carried out the programme for promoting the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, in which more than 600 pupils from elementary schools and kindergartens from Negreşti, Vaslui and Bârlad were involved. The goals of the activities were to inform the pupils and the teachers on the

rights of the child, the communities' responsibility regarding the rights of the child and to encourage the participation of children in school activities.

Iași

During 2007, Iași branch carried out 10 projects and campaigns, having as beneficiaries 120 children in difficulty and their families. Moreover, 50 parents benefited from free of charge legal and psychological counseling services, and 200 specialists in fields of activity related to the observance of child rights (social workers, psychologists, psycho-pedagogues, police officers) participated in the training seminars held by Save the Children Iași experts.

Since December 2007, Iași branch has been carrying out three new PHARE financed projects, Component 2 - Democracy, Human Rights, Rule of Law, Independence of Justice and Fight against Corruption: “Justice for minors in the best interest of the child”, “The rights of the child between law and reality” and “The Anti-Drug Inter-Institutional Network - an action model for child protection against drug use” - its aim is to establish and developing local anti-drug networks (Iași, Neamț and Botoșani) with the purpose of reducing drug demand among youths at a local and regional level.

„The Mobile School - a school for every child” continues the successful project, which helped create a new model of alternative education adjusted to the street realities in Iași

County. Last year only, from 120 children who participated regularly in the activities of the Mobile School, 12 were reintegrated in school, 18 obtained good results in school, 80 benefited from social assistance, and 21 stopped skipping school. Starting with December 2007, the Mobile School extended its target group, carrying out educational activities also with the minors and youths imprisoned in the Iași Maximum Security Penitentiary.

București

The volunteers from Bucharest branch contributed to organizing the National Forum from 2007, by getting actively involved within the work groups with children and in elaborating the strategy proposed to the authorities regarding the child right to education. Their role was also important within the “Child Rights” national competition, which took place at the Child Rights National Camp in Sărata-Monteoru.

Brașov

The volunteers from Brașov branch participated in elaborating the “Respecting the disabled children's right to education”, national assessment by applying the questionnaires and carrying out the interviews in Brașov County. They went to communities, visited families with the disabled children and the institutions responsible with ensuring the access to education.



Education for the Economically Exploited Children

Despite the progress of the educational system during 2000-2006 the school dropout rate has been progressively increasing in Romania. Therefore, according to the Report of the Minister of Education, Research and Youth on the situation of the Romanian educational system in 2007, the school dropout rate within elementary education increased three times during the above mentioned period- from 0.6% in the school year 2000-2001 to 1.8% in 2005-2006. On the other hand, there is a significant number of children who were never enrolled in the educational system, a figure which is not mentioned in the official statistics.

Child exploitation through labor is, at the same time, a decisive factor for the low participation of children in the educational system, and also a consequence of this fact; therefore, the involvement of children in the worst forms of labor determines school dropout or poor school results and high absenteeism, but, on the other hand, children's not attending school creates the premises for their involvement in labor.

OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the programme are to provide direct support to the children exploited through labor or children at risk of being exploited and to their families (social, educational, psychological, legal services and facilitating their access to medical services) and to sensitize the specialists and the public opinion regarding the causes and consequences of child exploitation through labor. At the same time, the activities carried out contribute to developing certain attitudes and behaviors responsible with their health.

Either components of the organization's programmes or established by Save the Children through programmes of national interest, the educational centers carry out complex socio-educational programmes focused on:

- **reintegration in school** (catching up with the school curriculum for grades I-IV for the children who dropped out of school or who were never enrolled within the educational system);
- **school dropout prevention** (additional assistance for grades I-VIII for the children who attend school, but also work);
- **preschool education** (educational activities for pre-school children carried out in the centers, paying the fees for the long hours kindergartens, season kindergarten);
- **social, psychological and legal services, facilitating the access to medical assistance for the children and their families;**
- **socializing and leisure time activities.**

EDUCATIONAL CENTERS

In 2007, Save the Children opened three educational centers in Cluj, Dâmbovița and Timiș Counties, whose aims are to support school reintegration, pre-school integration and to prevent school dropout. The activity of the educational center developed in partnership with School no. 71 from Bucharest has been extended, through initiating the **Second Chance** programme.

Furthermore, the socio-educational program for the children

exploited through labor was continued in the centers from Bucharest, Reșița, Iași, as well as the financial support and monitoring of the educational centers transferred to the DGASPCs from Bucharest - district 6, Dolj, Bistrița-Năsăud, Mureș, Vrancea Counties. These centers have been supported by providing nutritional support, purchasing school supplies, clothing and footwear, medicines and hygiene products, according to children's needs, support for recreational activities and children's transportation, renovation works, as well as the remuneration of the specialized staff.

DIRECT SUPPORT GRANTED TO THE CHILDREN AND TO THEIR FAMILIES

In 2007, the social and educational were provided to 908 children and their parents.

- 725 children benefited from educational programmes and social services within the educational centers of the organization from Bucharest, Cluj, Caraș-Severin, Dâmbovița, Timiș and Iași Counties (through the day center and the "Mobile School" programme).
- 183 children benefited from the organization's support, being provided with services complementary to the ones of the DGASPCs in educational centers from Bucharest, Dolj, Bistrița-Năsăud, Mureș, Vrancea.
- 172 information meetings on HIV infection and other ITSs were organized for 475 children in Bucharest and in Iași and Mureș Counties, both in the urban and in rural areas, within the project for the **Prevention of HIV/AIDS transmission among street children and Rroma communities.**
- The children participated in recreational and socializing activities: camps, trips (Costinești, Sărata Monteoru), internal and international sports competitions (Placement Centers Cup in Prague), visits to museums, shows.

The socio-educational program for the economically exploited children has been appreciated and awarded the Special Award at the Social Services Section within the **Civil Society Gala.**

In December, the first issue of the electronic newsletter on the activities of the educational centers was elaborated and sent to the programme supporters.

INFORMATION AND AWARENESS RAISING

Continuing the initiative from and 2006, the “Get involved in the fight against begging!” campaign was restarted on the “International Day against Child Exploitation through Labor”, with the support of the International Labor Office -International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labor (ILO-IPEC). The objectives of the campaign were, on one hand, to provide information on the actual causes and the social and legal consequences of the child exploitation through begging and to make an appeal to the citizens to become actively involved in the protection of exploited children and, on the other hand, to provide information, to specialists and the general public on the social and educational services available for this target group in Bucharest.

68 persons (social assistants of the organization and partner DGASPCs, volunteers and children integrated in educational programs) distributed flyers and spoke to approximately 9,000 people in 10 areas from Bucharest; 300 posters were displayed in common transportation means. 10.000 flyers, 500 posters and 100 T-shirts with the message of the campaign were produced. **Bucharest social services Guide for the children exploited through labor** was produced and distributed to partner institutions.

Approaching the problem of child exploitation through labor in rural areas, Save the Children organized a show (forum-theatre) in Bucșani village, in collaboration with the local Municipality and Elementary School. The role of this activity was to contribute to raising the awareness of 300 children, their parents and authorities on the consequences and risks of the worst forms of labor in agriculture where thousands of children are involved in.

FINANCERS

The Festival of Christmas Trees, Cora Hypermarket - „The Month of the Open Hearts” campaign, Save the Children Finland, Global Fund against HIV/AIDS, TB and Malaria

MATERIALS:

Newsletter Educational Centers (December)

PARTNERS: DGASPC districts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 Bucharest, DGASPC Dolj, Mureș, Bistrița-Nășăud, Vrancea, Dâmbovița, DGASPC Iași, Elementary School no. 1 Bucharest, Elementary School no. 71 Bucharest, Elementary School no. 3 Iași, Elementary School no. 10 Reșița, Elementary School no. 15 Timișoara, Elementary School no. 3 Târgoviște, “Nicolae Iorga” Elementary School Cluj-Napoca, Parada Foundation, ARAS, SOS Children's Villages Romania, County School Inspectorates, medical units.



E.'s parents understood how important school education is

E. is 14 and lives with his family in a house taken over abusively, in Matache Square.

The child was enrolled in the Ist grade in a school from Ialomița County, but the family left the town and, since they had no papers, they could not transfer her to a school from Bucharest. E. worked together with her family, selling various objects in the market, and afterwards, after she turned 12, she had season jobs as a saleswoman for several employers.

The social workers found her in the Matache Square area and proposed her to go back to school. At the beginning, her mother was reticent, as she did not understand the use of further education for the child who was already working and already represented a source of income for the family. After several discussions with the mother and with the help of other children from the community, E. was included in the program for social and school reintegration carried out by Save the Children Educational Center in collaboration with "Sfinții Voievozi" Elementary School no. 1.

Although she encountered a series of impediments from her family, who encouraged her to work and to go to school only during her spare time, E. graduated the IInd grade in school year 2006-2007, and she is currently in the IIIrd grade. In order to ensure the success of the school reintegration process, E. and her family were provided with food, school supplies, hygiene and sanitary products and clothing.

Besides the school education, E. was encouraged by the social workers to participate in school education and spare time activities. In June 2007, she participated as a volunteer performer in a theatre play about fighting child exploitation through labor. Furthermore, she got involved in the school reintegration of another child about whom she knew he had to beg. Together with other children, E. participated in the camp organized by Save the Children in Costinești.

At present, the family is more receptive to the fact that E. goes to school, showing interest in her evolution. E. wishes to graduate from compulsory education in order to be able to work legally and to help her family.



First Steps - Preschool Education for Disadvantaged Groups

The situation of Roma children is still difficult, which makes their school and social integration difficult. 22% of Roma people do not have identity papers, and this prevents or delays children's enrollment in school; other 20% of Roma people are illiterate, while 17% drop out of school after primary education.

Roma children's enrollment in preschool education is 4 times lower than the national average. The lack of preschool education generates a chain reaction: children who do not have any education cannot keep up with their colleagues, because they do not understand the information they receive, it is hard for them to express themselves due to their limited vocabulary, they cannot adapt to class discipline, while teachers do not have enough time to deal with each child separately. Hence, feelings of inutility, marginalization, weak school results, absenteeism and dropout.

RESULTS:

In order to give these children a chance, Save the Children continued and developed the project for preschool education for children coming from disadvantaged groups, mainly Roma. Apart from supporting the children attending the kindergartens from Mangalia, Valea Bădenilor and Plenița, support was provided to new kindergartens in: Vânători (Neamț County)

and Valea Mare/ Dumești (Vaslui County), which received new equipments, school supplies; summer education groups were organized in these facilities. The same "summer kindergarten" model was also implemented in Tecuci, within School no. 7 from Bălcescu neighborhood.

A group of 30 children from Mangalia, Valea Bădenilor and Plenița participated in a one week camp at Cheia. More than 100 children who were provided with preschool education have integrated easier in the 1st grade and were to meet school requirements without special difficulties.

MATERIALS

Leaflets "Roma children have the same rights"

PARTNERS

School inspectorate from Dolj, Arges and Constanta Counties.



Integration of Refugee and Separated Children in the Romanian Society

Every day, somewhere in the world, some children are obliged to seek refuge. They run from their own country because their life is being threatened. If they do not choose to leave, they risk persecution because of racial, religious, nationality considerations or because of their parents' political opinions. War is the most frequent reason why children, choose to leave their country, with or without their family. Asylum life means a lot of sorrow and, moreover, missing one's country and friends. Children are the largest number of victims of these situations, but with the help of international institutions, nongovernmental organizations and states that host refugees from around the world, these children can benefit from the right to a better and safer life.

Starting with 1998, Save the Children Romania has been directly involved, with the **United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees** support, in the protection of children that ask for asylum and refugee children in Romania. Through this project, refugee children are helped to adapt and integrate in the Romanian society. An essential role in this process is attributed both to educational and recreational activities, which allow the affirmation of own identities and cultural values and, at the same time, the undertaking of Romanian specific.

The beneficiaries of these programmes were 68 children and 33 parents. All children are integrated in the national educational system, their presence at school is monitored, while parents undertake counseling in order to surmount difficulties in adapting to the Romanian society.

RESULTS:

- Participation of refugee or separated children and youths in different activities, such as organization of shows, exhibitions and workshops for different events - **International Women's Day** (March 8th), **International Day Against Racial Discrimination** (March 21st), **International Children's Day** (June 1st), **World Environment Day** (June 5th), **World Refugee Day** (June 20th).



- The activities carried out within the Diversity Club gathered, in the first half of 2007, 36 children (meetings took place every weekend), the aim of the Club being to promote friendship between Romanian and refugee children through culture, customs and traditions. The following workshops were organized: modern and oriental dance, oriental adornment art, English, practical abilities, painting and acting, sports activities.
- Paying the daily food allowance for preschool refugee children who attended kindergartens or nurseries and supplementary tutoring in order to catch up with the information needed to integrate in the national educational system;
- Refugee children participated, together with Romanian children, in child rights workshops from Arbănași, Buzău (June 24th -29th).
- 35 children participated in the Children's Carnival, organized by Save the Children, and in the Coffee and Chocolate Fair, where they presented artistic programmes (poetry, modern and oriental dances).
- The refugee children were involved in creating the Christmas Tree for the Festival of Christmas Trees;
- Organizing a training course for the employees of the Child Protection Department, district 2, who can become legal representatives for separated children. 18 persons, representatives of DGASPC district 2, Gavroche Center, DGASPC Maramureș (Baia Mare), DGASPC Galați, ORI DAI (Romanian Immigration Office, Asylum and Integration Direction), UNHCR, CNRR and Save the Children.
- 4 information sessions on juvenile delinquency, 4 sessions on anti-trafficking, 3 information sessions on the abuse and violence against children and 2 sessions on education for health were carried out. 50 children were informed and involved in different activities on these issues (debates, various competitions and workshops were organized).
- A seminary for parents were organized ("Let's be together for our children!").

PARTENERS:

UNHCR, Romanian Immigration Office, National Immigration Council, Refugee Women's Organization in Romania, Jesuit Service in Romania, ARCA.

Global Campaign of the International Save the Children Alliance: "Rewrite the Future"

39 million children all around the world who live in countries thorn by wars and armed conflicts are deprived from education, according to the study "Last in Line, Last in School" elaborated by Save the Children and published in April 2007.

The members of the International Save the Children Alliance have been working with these children for some years, reintroducing medical and social services, rebuilding the infrastructure, training the teachers, rebuilding the schools and helping local authorities to apply adequate programmes.

The International Save the Children Alliance launched the campaign "Rewrite the future" in more than 40 countries all around the world, in order to provide access to quality education to children who live in conflict-affected states. During the next 5 years, Save the Children will bring back to school 8 million children living in conflict-affected states who were refused their basic right to education.

The action will be carried out in 40 countries, helping to rebuild schools, to train teachers, to provide the necessary school supplies and to improve the quality of education. Save the Children will convince National Governments, international

donors and institutions to allocate significantly larger funds for education and to make the education of these million children a priority.

Save the Children is involved in facilitating the access to education for the children living in Afghanistan and Iraq

"Without education, children's future is an endless cycle of poverty and conflict. The goal of our initiative is to attract other supporters who can get involved in sustaining the educational programme in these countries, as part of any emergency intervention. Save the Children requests the Romanian Government to allocate funds, as part of EU member responsibilities, in order to help children rewrite the future".

Until the end of 2007, Save the Children Romania was involved in the "Rewrite the Future" campaign, succeeding in raising the necessary funds to purchase school supplies, personal hygiene items, toys and beds for 700 children from villages in Southern Afghanistan, in Qalat locality and DHI Qar region, Talil locality, Iraq. The objects were transported with military aircrafts, in collaboration with the Ministry of National Defense and were distributed by the representatives of the Romanian 812 and 495 infantry battalion.



Lobby/advocacy

Save the Children is a member of:

- **The Executive Group of the High Level Group for Romanian Children;**
- **National Steering Committee for the elimination of worst forms of child labor;**
- **The National Anti-AIDS Committee;**
- **The College for Association and Foundations Consulting;**
- **Working Sub-Group for Preventing and Combating Trafficking in Children;**
- **Inter-Ministerial Working Group for the Coordination and Evaluation of the Activity for Preventing and Combating Trafficking in Human Beings;**
- **FOND;**
- **Missing Children Europe;**
- **ECPAT;**
- **EURONET;**
- **International Save the Children Alliance.**

Children affected by natural disasters

With the financial support of Save the Children Sweden, Save the Children Romania started a programme in April 2007, whose aim is to inform and prepare children in order for them to know how to protect themselves and how to react in cases of natural disasters (floods, earthquakes, fires). The novelty of this project, new also for Romania and for Europe, consists in involving children to a greater extent and assigning them the role to coordinate the activities carried out. Several meetings with project partners took place in order to settle the locations where the pilot project will be implemented and to close written partnerships with all the institutions involved. The children, volunteers and coordinators involved in the three locations were also selected.

The information and training activities for children were carried out first in School 71 "Iovan Ducici" in Bucharest, in "Gheorghe Jienescu" Elementary School from Rast, Dolj County and Elementary School from Chiselet, Călărași County.

For 2008, the aim of the project is to continue the information and training activities for children, to publish informative materials conceived and elaborated by children, which will be used in schools, and also to elaborate a work methodology that can be undertaken and used by the responsible authorities at a national level.

In order to find out how children are organized in areas affected by tsunami, a study visit was organized in Thailand, where Save the Children Sweden implemented specific projects; by representatives of **Save the Children, Ministry of Education, Research and Youth** and the **High Level Group for Romanian Children** participated in this activity.

PARTNERS: Ministry of External Affairs, National Authority for the Protection of Child Rights, Save the Children Italy, Rome and Torino Municipalities.

Protection of unaccompanied Romanian children living in Italy

Taking into consideration the large number of children, accompanied or not by parents, who live in European Union states, Save the Children has initiated a collaboration between Romanian and Italian authorities in order to implement a project that will provide information and social services to Romanian children and their families, who are in difficult or risk situation on Italian territory.

The project started with an evaluation visit of two representatives from Save the Children and one from the National Authority for the Protection of Child Rights (ANPDC) in Rome and Torino, during November 12nd - 22nd 2007. As a follow-up, Save the Children together with ANPDC submitted a project proposal to the Ministry of External Affairs and also proposals for improving the situation of Romanian children and their families in Italy. Save the Children has also prepared a schedule of activities that will be implemented in collaboration with ANPDC in Italy.

PARTENERS:

Ministry of External Affairs, National Authority for the Protection of Child Rights, Save the Children Italy, Rome and Torino Municipalities.

Children's Ombudsman

Without denying the progress achieved by the Government and Parliament - many times due to the initiative and supported by nongovernmental organizations- in elaborating and adopting a modern legislation that complies with international documents in the field of child rights, it is vital to establish an institution which should monitor the enforcement of the law and defend child rights.

The United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child recommended Romania to establish the Children's Ombudsman institution, which will have several attributions:

- regular analysis of the situation of child rights observance and presenting it to the general public and the Parliament;
- proposing new laws or amending the existing ones;
- analyzing the implementation of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child;
- periodical reporting to the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child and following the implementation of the recommendations;
- investigations of cases of child rights violations, carried out by authorities.

Save the Children recommended in 2007 the actions for establishing the Children's Ombudsman institution in Romania. Therefore, after having prepared a documentation of models of this institution in

different European countries, it initiated two important activities in order to sensitize the responsible authorities in the field of children protection:

- Under the aegis of the High Level Group for Romanian Children, with the support of the Romanian Government and the Swedish Embassy in Bucharest, a technical seminar was organized, with the special participation of Mrs. Lena Nyberg, Children Ombudsman in Sweden.
- A round table on the issue of “**Independent institutions for child rights protection**”, an event organized in the Romanian Parliament and in which Parliament members and officials of institutions with responsibilities in implementing child rights participated. Mr. Thomas Hammarberg, European Council Commissioner for Human Rights was the special guest, a supporter of the idea of an independent institution to monitor the observance of child rights, similar to the ones that exist in more than 24 members of the European Council.

Mrs. Daciana Sârbu, Deputy, supported the elaboration of a project to modify the People Ombudsman Law, which will stipulate that a Deputy People Ombudsman should undertake the responsibilities that would have been assigned to a Children's Ombudsman

MATERIALS:

The brochure “**Children's Ombudsman - a necessary institution**” - distributed to members of Parliament and other institutions with responsibilities in the field of child protection.

PARTNERS:

NCPA, Romanian Children's High Level Group, Mrs. Daciana Sarbu - currently Euro parliamentarian, Swedish Embassy in Romania, Radda Barnen - Salvati Copiii Sweden.

Respecting the right to education of children with disabilities

Vernor Munos Villalobos, UN Special Rapporteur for the right to education rights insists on the fact that “**all children should learn together**”, showing that disability means exclusion for children, that they suffer from stigmatization and discrimination and that all these are even more emphasized by special education.

The project “**Respecting the right to education of children with disabilities**”, financed by World Learning and carried on in partnership with the Association for Supporting Physically Disabled Children in Romania and Sense International Romania, followed up, within a qualitative research, the way in which the legislation on education for children with disabilities is observed, mainly regarding school inclusion and their access to mainstream education. The research was carried out in 8 Counties and revealed some of the problems that children with disabilities and other factors involved - parents, teaching staff

and authorities - confront with. It ended with a Research Report and with several proposals both for the local level and for the Ministry of Education, Research and Youth.

The research revealed that the main aspects for which improvement measures must be taken are:

- teachers' resilience in accepting children with disabilities in classes, arguing that they cannot teach their classes properly because of these children;
- these children are sent to special schools very easily;
- lack of incentives for the teaching staff working with children with disabilities;
- the difficult way in which children with disabilities can be transferred from special schools to mainstream schools;
- weak collaboration between Services for complex evaluation and School Inspectorates regarding school guidance provided for children with disabilities ;
- acute lack of correct information for parents, teaching staff and local authorities.

The project was carried on in 7 Counties (Suceava, Cluj, Timiș,



Prahova, Dolj, Constanța, Brașov) and Bucharest. Together with the School Inspectorates, plans for improving the education for children with disabilities have been elaborated, focused mainly on the following aspects:

- a. better information on legislation for parents who have children with disabilities;
- b. continuous training for the teaching staff who work with these children in schools;
- c. adjusting the school curriculum to pupils' needs;
- d. improvement the access to and in schools;

Save the Children and its partners will monitor the implementation of these plans and will support the elaboration of a guide on education for children with disabilities, to support parents and teaching staff.

The result of the project was the inclusion of 39 children with disabilities in the mainstream schools and of other 20 in special schools and kindergartens.

MATERIALS

Research Report “**Respecting the right to education of children with disabilities**”

PARTNERS

Association for Supporting Physically Disabled Children in Romania and Sense International Romania.

FOND

The Federation of Nongovernmental Organizations for Development was founded in March 2007; its goal is to promote the involvement of Romanian nongovernmental organizations in the national and European policy of international cooperation for development: in this respect, the aim of FOND is to be the main partner of the Ministry of External Affairs. Save the Children is founding member.

Starting with 2007, Romania changed its status from aid beneficiary to donor country. The international cooperation for development policy became operable through multilateral contributions, in total of 4.675.000 Euro. The Romanian Government allocated the entire sum to United Nations agencies.

The Ministry of External Affairs invited FOND to participate in the second edition of “European Development Days”, an event organized by the European Commission in Lisbon, Portugal, during November 7th - 9th. The Romanian stand presented, through images and printed materials, Romania's transition from beneficiary to donor state and to its new status as responsible European Union member respectively. Save the Children contributed to the Romanian stand organized during the European Development Days.

Safe use of Internet by children

Compared to the development of communication technologies (computer networks, data transfer using the Internet, mobile phones etc.) child rights receive new connotations and create new responsibilities for social actors. This domain represents a challenge if we take into consideration the enormous benefits that the information technology can bring, but also the risks at which uninformed or unsupervised children are currently exposed to (information and messages with illegal content - pornographic sites with children or with adults or that incite to racial hate, discrimination, extreme violence or committing offences, online contacts followed up by contacts in real world with strangers who can commit sexual or physical abuses on the child or his/her family, robberies etc., aggressive commerce and publicity that exploit the children's lack of experience in using credit cards or in filling in their personal data).

In 2007, Save the Children participated in the elaboration of an analysis on the way children understand to use computers and the Internet and to what degree they are supervised by parents and teachers. We consider that all children must be supported to develop a responsible and secure attitude regarding the use of the Internet, computers and mobile phones, in order to avoid all inherent risks or to be helped to overcome the abusive situations they may be subjected to. Games, music, favorite films, communication with friends or colleagues, PC and Internet assisted homework are ideal opportunities for individual and group development, but these can also have unwanted effects.

In order to get involved in eliminating the dangers associated to the use of online technologies and to prevent the traps that many children are a victim of, Save the Children, as coordinator, Positive Media and Focus Center, as partners, established a consortium for developing the **Safe.Info** project, within the Safer Internet Plus European Commissions programme for promoting the safer use of the Internet and new online technologies. The project submitted in 2007 was placed second on the call for proposals list for the Safer Internet Plus 2008-2010 Programme. 48 projects from the European Union were submitted for this call of proposals.

The project, which will be launch on mid-2008, will have three components: initiating awareness raising campaigns and training courses for children, parents and teachers, creating an informative focal point on the general aspects about Internet and the risks involved in using computers and analysis the complaints regarding online risks and ulterior intervention, carried out in collaboration with the Romanian Online Crime Prevention Division.

PARTNERS: Ministry of Communication and Information Technology, Ministry of Education, Research and Youth, National Regulatory Authority for Communications and Information Technology, National Authority for the Protection of Child Rights, National Agency against Trafficking in Human Beings, Romanian Online Crime Prevention Division, Internet Service Providers National Association, Microsoft,

Orange, UPC Romania, Faculty of Sociology and Social Assistance- Bucharest University.

CHRISTMAS TREES FESTIVAL 2007

The Festival of Christmas Trees is a fundraising event organized annually by Save the Children Romania, whose main attraction is the special auction of Christmas trees, designed exclusively for this occasion by some of the most famous Romanian designers. The Festival of Christmas Trees, which has become one of the attractions of the season's social calendar, supports Save the Children Romania projects.

The Organizing Committee's members of the Festival of Christmas Trees 2007 are: **Andi Moiescu**, **Mihaela Rădulescu**, **Amalia Năstase**, **Andreea Raicu**, **Ileana Pescariu**, **Tereza Munteanu** (Managing Director Y&R), **Corina Bârlădeanu** (Manager 2activePR), **Adela Jansen** (BRD - Groupe Société Générale Secretary General), **Liviu Sfrija** (General Manager Henkel Romania), **Dan Moraru** (CEO



BBDO Romania), **Gabriela Terchilă** (Managing Director Proximity), **Liliana Șerban** (PR Director Pleon Graffiti).

The Festival took place on December 4th and raised 657.860 Euro for the children beneficiaries of Save the Children organization.

Sponsori principali:



Sponsori participanți:



Sponsori susținători:



The auction of the Christmas trees especially designed for the 7th edition of the Festival of Christmas Trees raised 561.300 Euro, while another 8.060 Euro were raised from selling raffle tickets. The sponsors of the event contributed with another 88.500 euro.

The Christmas trees were offered by: **Stephan Pelger, Irina Marinescu, Wilhelmina Arz, Oxette shop, Togo Design, Venera Arapu, Louis Vuitton, Adrian Oianu, I.D.Sarrieri, Victoria 46 Shop-Roberto Cavalli tree, Rita Mureşan, Alexandru Ghilduş, Cristian Mungiu, children and volunteers from Save the Children.**

As in every year, the sum raised within the gala evening will be used to support Save the Children Romania programmes for the social and school reintegration of the children who are forced to work.

The hosts of the evening were **Andi Moiescu and Mihaela Rădulescu**, both members of the Organizing Committee and loyal partners also of previous editions of the Festival of Christmas Trees. They conducted the auction, together with the personalities who presented each tree: **Larisa Claru, Roxana Ciuhulescu, Ioana Moldovan, Andreea Esca, Oana Cuzino, Dan Moraru, Ilie Năstase, Rebeca and Gloria Mureşan.**

A special moment of the Gala was the awarding ceremony of the biggest donors: **Marius Ivan (125.000 Euro), Henkel Romania (90.000 Euro) and Avantgarde Group (45.000 Euro).**

The sponsors of the Festival of Christmas Trees 2007 were: main sponsors - **Ramada Bucharest North, Henkel, OTP Bank;** participant sponsors - **Rolex, Deutek Dufa, Distrigaz Sud SA, Ericsson;** supporting sponsors - **Actavis, Apa Nova, BMW Automobile Bavaria, BRD Groupe Soci t  G n rale, Cosmote, Hyundai, Lufthansa, Ford, Microsoft, Mitsubishi Motors, Petrom, Titan Mar, Fundatia Mobexpert, Schonherr and Associates, News Outdoor, Henry Coanda Airport Bucharest.**

"THE MONTH OF OPEN HEARTS" CAMPAIGN

During May 1st - 31st 2007, for the third consecutive year, **Cora Hypermarket, Save the Children and ILO-IPEC (International Labor Organization - International Programme for the Elimination of Child Labor)** organized the "The Month of Open Hearts" campaign, in order to provide support for 300 children at risk of school dropout or who have already dropped out of school or who have never been enrolled in school.

Cora customers had the opportunity to buy small toys, for 2 RON, and a toy school bus, for 16 RON, from the two Cora hypermarkets in Bucharest, and Cora Hypermarket in Cluj. Cora employees got enthusiastically involved in this campaign. 79 volunteers and 10 social assistants from the organization took part in the campaign promotion activities, providing the customers with information on the socio-educational programmes carried out and how the money raised will be used.

The sum raised this year exceeded 204.000 RON. From August to December, 239 children received support within the Educational Centers from Bucharest - partnership with DGASPC district 1 and from Cluj.

CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY CONFERENCE

Save the Children Romania and the Swedish Embassy organized a **Corporate Social Responsibility** conference on November 13rd 2007, at the World Trade Center.

The objective of the event was experience exchange between Swedish companies and companies acting in Romania on the importance of getting involved and investing in local communities. The participants presented examples of good practices and discussed about the advantages of the companies

related to the implementation of a corporate social responsible policy.

The conference was presided by **H.E. Mr. Mats O. Aberg, the Swedish Ambassador in Romania**, with the special participation of **Mrs. Elisabeth Dahlin, responsible for International Commerce within the Swedish Ministry of External Affairs.**

Mr. Erik Knudsen - representative of SAS Swedish Companies, Mr. Erik Braudsm  - Eon and Mr. Ryan Shanks - Accenture, presented the vision and social responsibility projects that they implement in Sweden, thus transferring their experience to the 40 managers present at the event.

"Save the Children believes in the efficiency of the cooperation between companies and nongovernmental organizations specialized in various fields. We would like to learn how to be a better partner, trustworthy, for the business sector, so that by joining our efforts to have a real and lasting impact on those who need our help", stated **Gabriela Alexandrescu, Executive President, Save the Children Romania.**

KPMG - SAVE THE CHILDREN PARTNERSHIP

In July 2007, for three days, 40 KPMC employees from 6 countries (England, Germany, France, Spain, Holland and Romania) developed a programme of community involvement, directly helping to renovate the Chiselet kindergarten from Căl raşii County. The kindergarten was already included in Save the Children programmes, as the area was affected by floods in 2006.

The 40 KPMG volunteers decorated the exterior walls of the kindergarten with fairytale scenes and arranged the playground with a sand pool, benches and tables for children.

They brought their extraordinary energy in the community of Chiselet village, organizing parties and competitions for children. Their actions contributed to increasing the local community's responsibility for maintaining and improving the equipments of the kindergarten and generated new ideas for continuing the collaboration between KPMG and Save the Children.

PARTNERS: Chiselet municipality, Mr. Mihail Penu, Mayor, Chiselet kindergarten, Ms. Vasilica Staicu, local coordinator, Impact Development Training Group.



Financial report 2007

	EURO
I. INCOMES.....	1,804,492
1 Festival of Christmas Trees 2006/ 2007	447,671
2 Save the Children Sweden	206,344
3 Global Fund against HIV/AIDS, TB and Malaria	195,196
5 The Delegation of the European Commission in Romania	136,212
4 Selgros collecting boxes	110,080
6 International Save the Children Alliance	82,384
7 Marius Ivan Foundation	71,634
8 VAT recovery	68,820
9 CORA Hypermarket - The Month of Opened Hearts	65,460
10 2% of the global income tax	60,469
11 Save the Children Finland	30,740
12 "Tucker's Friends" Foundation -USA.	28,346
13 BJORGVIN VIDEREGÆNDE SKOLE School-Bergen-Norway;	27,448
14 Prime Minister's Chancellery, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Timișoara Local Council, Caraș Severin County Council, Iași City Hall, AJOFM Hunedoara, ANDPRZM Petroșani, DGASPC Iași and Mureș.	27,168
15 Natural persons contributions, fees	17,907
16 USAID / World Learning	16,413
17 European Child Help Organization - UK	15,491
18 Save the Children Austria	15,051
19 United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees	14,443
20 Ringier Romania - Evenimentul Zilei	11,980
21 Henkel Romania	11,574
22 Lubricants UK.....	9,597
23 Romanian Lottery	9,501
24 Civil Society Development Foundation	8,815
25 Social Alternatives Association.....	6,777
26 International Labor Office -International Programme for the Elimination of Child Labor	6,444
27 Microsoft	5,133
28 Bricostore and Metro collecting boxes	3,965
29 United Way	3,849
30 Global Campaign for Education.....	1,800
31 Other donations, sponsorships coming from legal entities (Germanos, H&M, East Capital, Donors' Forum Federation, Quadra Invest, Aston Com, Titanmar and others)	46,718
32 Other funds	28,298
33 Bank interests	12,764

I. INCOMES: 1,804,492 euro of which:

National and international bodies and non-profit organizations	863,508	48 %
Fees, contributions, donations, sponsorships	827,503	45 %
VAT recovery	68,820	3 %
State institutions	27,168	2 %
Bank income	12,764	1 %
Other income	4,729	1 %

REPORT OF THE AUDITING COMMISSION regarding the financial and accounting activity of the organization SAVE THE CHILDREN ROMANIA for the year 2007

The undersigned, Raisa Marieta and Raisa Mircea, authorized auditors of the Organization Save the Children, have audited the financial annual reports for 2007.

Save the Children Romania, a non-governmental, non for profit, public utility association, has been active in Romania since 1990 and has branches in 13 counties. It promotes and defends children's rights according to the provisions of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, ratified by Romania in 1990.

An audit consists in examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and the information covered in the annual reports. It also assesses the principles and the methods used, as well as the significant estimates made by the management team of the association for closing the accounts, as well as for examining the overall report.

The financial annual reports that we have assessed were as follows: the balance sheet and the trial balances, made up under the responsibility of the manager of the association.

The auditors are responsible for stating their opinion regarding the annual reports. We estimate that the audit performed expresses fully our opinion.

To this purpose we have assessed, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and the information covered in the annual reports. We have observed the accounting principles and methods used, the legal accounting financial stipulations, the standards and the regulations of the Ministry of Public Finances with reference to the non lucrative, non - governmental organizations.

In our opinion, the information included in the Annual Financial Report is correct and complete and does reflect the financial and accounting situation for 2007, in an accurate way.

The Auditing Commission

Marieta Raisa

Mircea Raisa

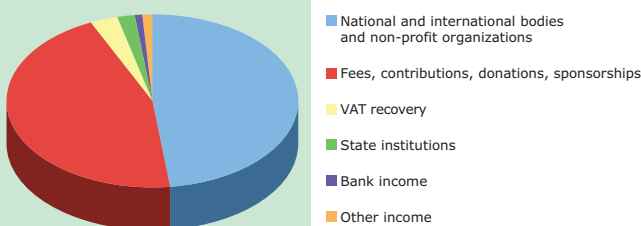
Executive President

Gabriela Alexandrescu

Economic Director

Mara Niculescu

Income



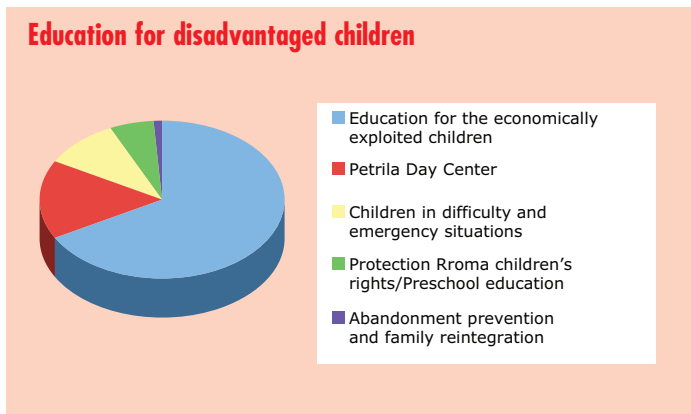
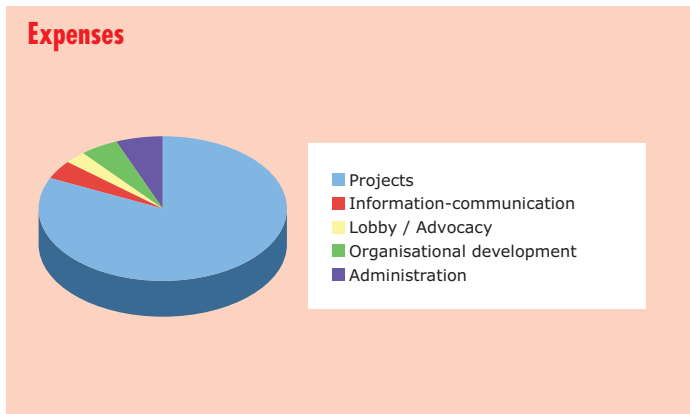
	SUM (EURO)
II EXPENSES	1,606,129
A. PROJECTS	1,317,306
1. Promoting the Convention on the Rights of the Child. . .	57,854
2. Volunteering development.	10,524
3. Information and Documentation Centre on the Rights of the Child	28,322
4. Education on health	276,089
5. Prevention and protection of the children victims of violence	275,036
6. Education for disadvantaged children	621,611
7. Child support Afghanistan, Iraq	7,504
8. Respecting the disabled children's right to education . .	21,343
9. Refugee children	19,023
B. LOBBY / ADVOCACY for respecting child rights	39,351
C. INFORMING - COMMUNICATION	67,641
D. ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT	86,466
E. ADMINISTRATION	95,365

II. EXPENSES: 1,606,129 euro, of which:

A. PROJECTS	1,317,306	82 %
B. INFORMATION-COMMUNICATION	67,641	4 %
C. LOBBY / ADVOCACY	39,351	3 %
D. ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT	86,466	5 %
E. ADMINISTRATION	95,365	6 %

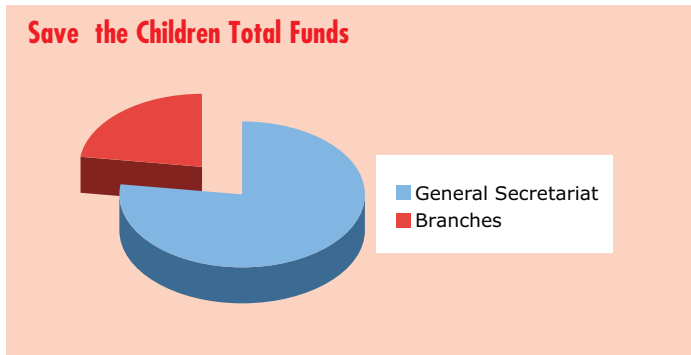
III. EDUCATION FOR DISADVANTAGED CHILDREN: 621,611 euro, of which:

1. Education for the economically exploited children	416,862	67 %
2. Petrila Day Center	99,248	16 %
3. Children in difficulty and emergency situations	63,699	10 %
4. Protection Rroma children's rights/Preschool education	37,704	6 %
5. Abandonment prevention and family reintegration	4,098	1 %



THE SALVAȚI COPIII ACTIVITY takes place at the GENERAL SECRETARIAT and in 13 branches:
TOTAL FUNDS = 1,804,492 euro, of which:

General Secretariat	1,395,646	(77,34%)
Branches	408,846	(22,66%)



Partners

Legal entities:

A la Reine Astrid, Adobe Systems Romania, Azay, Automobile Bavaria, Actavis, Apa Nova București, Deutsche Lufthansa Agency Bucharest, Artima, **Avantgarde Printing**, Aston Com, Henry Coanda Airport Bucharest, Avon Cosmetics, Avicola, Accor Services, **BRD Groupe Société Générale**, BRD Finance IFN, Banca Comercială Română, BBDO Romania, Bellissima Salon, Braun Forman, Carla Szabo, Carlo Production, Casa del Arte, Clinica Coquette, Chronolink, Ciurtin Brașoveanu & Associates, Cosmote Romanian Mobile, **Carrefour Romania**, Coty Cosmetics Romania, Cristalex 94, Corint Junior, Credeo 2000, Dufa Deutek, Distringaz Sud, De Silva Intermed, Dent Estet Clinic, **De Silva RTH**, Danone, Dacris Impex, Davino, DBV Media House, Diff Studios, Efect Media, Egoist Wellness, Ericson Telecom, Allfa Publishing House, Elmi Prodfarm, Litera International Publishing House, **The Group Foundation**, **Marius Ivan Foundation**, Mobexpert Foundation, RTC Foundation, Donor's Forum Federation, George Alexandrescu Foundation, Flamingo Computers, Galt, Gecad, Grup Cațavencu, Germanos Telecom, **Henkel Romania**, Hyundai Auto, Helvetansa, Hagi Sport, Hiproma, Hit Mail, I.D. Sarrieri, Innova Interiorism, Inside by Innova, Irina Marinescu, Librăria Cărturești, IKEA, **Loteria Română**, Lowe Public Relations, Luxcom Style,

MC Cann Erickson, Outwear Shop, Marriott Bucharest Grand Hotel, Media Image, MediaPro, Media Direction, Microsoft, MCAR Trading, Mars Romania, News Outdoor Romania, Natur Pact, Noriel Impex, New Media Public Relations, Novartis Consumer Health Services, Nemira & CO, **OTP Bank**, Orange, Oxette, Publimedia, Prima Media Consulting, Petrom, Paralela 45 Turism, **CORA Hypermarket Romania**, **Ringier Romania**, Revista Tabu, RTC Holding, **Romcar**, Romtelecom, Rolex, RX Atelier, **SOF Medica**, SDK Management, Sintofarm, **Selgros Cash&Carry**, Salon Kameea-Concept, Sanoma Hearst, Sepala by Mihaela Glăvan, Sofitel, Telemedia Consult, Triangle D'Or, TitanMar, **Trust Motors**, TetraPak, Tymbark Maspex Romania, Quadra Invest, US Food Network, Unilever South Central Europe, Unicorn Pro, Vision Media Group, Vodafone, Whirlpool Romania, Wella Romania, World Class Romania, Wellness Club, Y&R and others.

Natural persons:

Marius Ivan, **Bogdan Enoiu**, **Emil Săvulescu**, **Gică Popescu** Adriana Pârvu, Liliana Valentina Grosu, Ghenadie Popa, Marius Cruce, Alina Doica, Alexandru Curtu, Geamanu, Radu Caroiian, Radu Ropotă, Cecilia Wiig Botez și Pal Kleven and others.



Branch sponsors

ARGEȘ - Pitești Cultural Center, Așchiuță Theatre for children, Provident

BUCHAREST - First Data Western Union, Ilfov district Financial Administration, Syrian Students League from Romania, Mr. Osiwa Kyojy.

Carăș - SEVERIN - Caras-Severin County Council, FDSC.

CONSTANȚA - Euroliberty Brașov, SC Jean Bart SRL.

DOLJ -Billa, natural persons from Austria and Norway, Rettet Das Kind Wien Osterreich, Rhomda to Romania.

HUNEDOARA -Tucker's Friends Foundation - USA, Dufa Romania, Henkel Romania, Henkel Bautechnik, Peace Corps Romania - USAID, ANDPRZM Petrosani, FDSC, Gas Romania, S.C. Mantra SRL Bucharest, D.N. 66 Petroșani, S.C. Triumf Comserv S.R.L. Petroșani, S.C. Util Celest Prest SRL, S.C. Gentiana Farm SRL Petrila, SC LUCKY Diana SRL.

Iași - Moldova Mall, Coca-Cola, Tuffli Pastry Shop, Link Foundation Romania, S.C. Arcelor Mittal Tubular Products

Iași, S.C. Ștefana S.R.L. Iași, Mr. Gheorghiu Milena, Mrs. Gherghelus Liliana, 2nd grade "George Coșbuc" Elementary school from Iași (teacher: Trandafir Emilia).

MUREȘ - Felicia Moldovan Christian Foundation.

Neamț - SC Elmacomf SRL Piatra Neamț.

SUCEAVA - Cătălina Buzduga Notary Public Office, SC Relians Corp SRL Iași, Mr. Filimon Alin, S.C. Danilux S.R.L.Rădăuți, S.C. Super Star S.R.L.Rădăuți, S.C. Farmacia Davila S.R.L.Rădăuți, S.C. Loredana S.R.L.Rădăuți, , PF Armasu Constantin Iași, SC Senses SRL Iași

Timiș - California Fitness Romania, Machine Per Cafee Espresso - MCE SRL., Procter & Gambel, Bega Minerale, Coca Cola Company, Porto Petrol SRL, Glissando SRL, Estetic Studio SRL, Native SRL, Rudolf Walter Foundation, Avantgarde Sisteme, Vodafone Romania, Magus SRL, Selgros Cash & Cary, Metro Cash & Cary, Timișoara City Hall.

VASLUI - SC Vasflor, SC Comacons SRL, SC Unimatex SRL, SC Balsam SRL.

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Vice-president: Mihai Gafencu
Executive President: Gabriela Alexandrescu

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