



## Young With A Voice



### DONOR AND IMPLEMENTATION PARTNERS

The project is financed by the European Commission, through the Civil Society Facility (Operating Grants to IPA CSO Associations. Support to regional thematic associations). The main applicant is Open Club Serbia and the partners are: BKTF Albania, Naša Djeca Association Zenica Bosnia and Herzegovina, KOMF Kosovo and Children First Montenegro. The project will be implemented throughout January-December 2016 on behalf of ChildPact, the Regional Coalition for Child Protection.



### PROJECT RATIONALE

All countries in our region share a post-communist legacy that is still visible in the national child protection systems. Although children's rights are formally granted by international documents – and most prominently by the UNCRC – even 25 years after this fundamental UN document was introduced, many of these countries still do not fully comply with the standards they were bound to respect. Thus, there is an urgent demand for structural reforms that address and meet the needs of thousands of vulnerable children.

The Child Protection Index looks into the state of play of those UNCRC articles that are the most relevant for the reality of the vulnerable children in the region. The Index is designed to equip local civil society organizations to undertake evidence-based advocacy and improve a country's child protection system and it has been piloted in 9 countries. This project aims to allow us to make the best use of the data resulted from the piloting phase, motivating members of civil society to unite towards government monitoring and accountability for the protection and the well-being of the young generations of vulnerable citizens.



## OBJECTIVE

The **overall objective** of this action envisages that a group of more dynamic and much more visible civil society organisations strengthen their cooperation within the ChildPact regional association and vigorously promote the social, economic and human rights of the vulnerable groups. Our **specific objective** is to increase the capacity and commitment of ChildPact and its members to give a voice to young people that risk social and economic marginalization and influence social reforms through analysis, monitoring and advocacy by joining their efforts in the regional association ChildPact.



## EXPECTED RESULTS

1. Improved co-operation between the civil society organisations (in particular ChildPact and its members) and public authorities;
2. Better understanding and visibility of the work carried out by ChildPact and its members;
3. ChildPact and its members organize consultations with young people that risk social and economic marginalization and pool their collective expertise to produce high quality research, monitoring and strategic advocacy;
4. Government institutions recognise the value of the participation of the ChildPact members and their members in the reform processes.



## ACTIVITIES

**I** ChildPact and its members are equipped for future evidence-based advocacy actions, through the revision of the Child Protection Index data collection methodology and its indicators' framework, which will support a new generation of Child Protection Indexes in the region.

1. Organize a technical and stakeholder workshop to refine the Child Protection Index methodology and indicators' framework;
2. Refine the methodology and the indicators' framework of the Child Protection Index;
3. Develop policy and advocacy messages and instruments;
4. Develop and implement an index-based advocacy strategy;
5. Disseminate the Child Protection Index results with the wider public;
6. Promote the Child Protection Index as a monitoring tool with an international expert audience.

**II** ChildPact and its members are supported for making the best public and advocacy use of the data resulted from the Child Protection Index pilot phase, mainly by creating and implementing an advocacy strategy and an effective dissemination plan that would reach both expert and non-expert audiences.

7. Organise regional meetings of national networks – ChildPact members from the Western Balkans;
8. Organise 5 national trainings in the Western Balkans countries for ChildPact members on Child Protection Index;
9. Implement evidence-based advocacy campaign in 5 countries of the Western Balkans.



This project is funded by The European Union. The contents of this document are sole responsibility of the Open Club and can in no way be taken to reflect the views of the European Union.