

ETP SLOVAKIA
CENTER FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

ANNUAL REPORT
2009

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Introduction



Vladimír Ira
Chairman of the Executive Board



Slávka Mačáková
Executive Director

FROM THE CHAIRMAN AND DIRECTOR

2009 was another very productive and exciting year for ETP Slovakia. The economic downturn hit our clients more than most Slovak people so the comprehensive services we provide in ETP network of community centers for poor people were needed more than ever.

We continued to concentrate on supporting disadvantaged and minority groups and pursue our policy of encouraging our clients to help themselves, their families and their communities.

Of many 2009 highlights, perhaps there were four main ones:

Firstly, in April we were delighted to receive 2009 Gypsy Spirit Award in the NGO category in recognition of the comprehensive and sustainable services we provide to Roma communities.

Secondly, at the end of August we started a contract to provide social care for 98 Palestinian refugees who were to be in Slovakia as a place of safety for up to six months before being resettled in the USA.

Thirdly, on 1st October we started a major new 19 month project, funded by the governments of Norway, Iceland, Lichtenstein and Slovakia to continue our comprehensive services on a “cradle to grave” basis in 12 towns and villages.

Fourthly, on 9th November we celebrated the completion of our first (and the first in Slovakia involving a nongovernmental organization) construction of social housing apartments, 12 units in Moldava nad Bodvou.

In addition, throughout the year we have been able to continue to provide a savings program, funded by the Open Society Institute, a micro-loan project for home improvements, funded by Habitat for Humanity International, the US based CrossRoads program and financial education courses, as well as our regular services.

2009 saw ETP Slovakia at full stretch but, we feel, also gaining in respect for the consistent application of our policies.

We hope you find this report informative.

Mission Statement:

To support regional development, protect the environment and assist in the development of the social, economic, educational and cultural potential of people, organizations and communities with an emphasis on problem solving within disadvantaged regions, socially disadvantaged groups and ethnic minorities.





ETP IN 2009

Our principal challenge in 2009 remained the economic and other inequalities in Slovakia, which seem to be increasing and perpetuating generational poverty in excluded Roma communities.

A recent report (The Cost of Non-Inclusion by Anton Marcinčin and Ľubica Marcinčinová July 2, 2009, commissioned by the Open Society Foundation) demonstrates that the full inclusion of the Roma in Slovak society would bring anywhere from 7 to 11% of GDP per year, a fact which, the Report states, should justify substantial public investment in the reform of the education system and Roma-oriented programs. Only one in ten Roma in productive age is in employment – with poverty passed from generation to generation and creating benefit traps.

By 2030, 10% of the Slovak population will be Roma and 16% of the population will be in productive or school age but about two thirds of the Roma currently simply give up on finding employment. The Roma employment rate is about 10% compared with 60% of non-Roma and the unemployment rate about 46% compared to 10% of non-Roma. Up to 60% of the unemployed have been without a job for longer than a year and 44% have been unemployed for over two years. The Roma receive up to 30% of all welfare benefits.

ETP Slovakia is driven by two guiding principles: a holistic approach to social and economic development and a firm belief that we can only fully address social exclusion with long-term and comprehensive engagement of individuals and communities. Our experience is that change can be expected if we help build the capacity of community social workers, members of local government and the clients. Our goal is to improve the quality of life of individuals and increase their chances of success in the form of education, employment, self-sufficiency and independence from government welfare support.

Our other main client group in the second half of 2009, refugee families in transit, have faced similar discrimination and poverty following their displacement from Baghdad and their years in a desert tented camp. The cultural changes they are facing are considerable and we can only hope that the time they have spent with us will improve their life chances.



Our Innovative Programs

We have been implementing many innovative programs in recent years and in 2009 we felt that the stage had been reached where these programs had been field tested with such success as to make us confident in proposing that they should become part of central Government's response to the provision of social care.

These initiatives are summarized below but it is of vital importance that they are seen as a complementary whole and not seen or implemented in isolation.

a) The use of **Community Centers**, staffed by well trained generalists, located close to where poor families live, was pioneered by ETP Slovakia and now has general acceptance. There are still, however, many disadvantaged communities who do not have the benefit of such professionally staffed centers and we would like to see them in every town and village where there is a substantial marginalized Roma community.

b) **The concept of integrated, comprehensive services**, again pioneered by ETP Slovakia, now has widespread acceptance as the way forward but theory has yet to become practice and most service providers at all levels still operate in a traditional "silo" way, with little joined up thinking.

c) Many countries, especially in South America, have changed their welfare policies from providing unconditional cash benefits to poor families to conditional cash transfer schemes which require a commitment from the recipient, demonstrating self help. **Individual Development Accounts ("IDAs")** are one type of conditional cash transfer which have been operated by ETP Slovakia, with its partner the Open Society Institute. IDAs reward people who regularly save for a chosen asset (usually home improvement or return to education) with a 1:1 matched cash payment. Training is provided, including relating to personal financial management, personal development and, where appropriate, in constructional skills.





d) Micro-Credits for home improvements again demonstrate self help. In cooperation with Habitat for Humanity International and the Office of the Plenipotentiary of the Government of the Slovak Republic for Roma Communities, loans of up to 1,200 Euros to low-income families were used in 2009 to build a bathroom, get access to water, construct a new roof, and install heating or insulation, etc. Borrowers repay their loans over a maximum period of 4 years and receive training in financial education and construction skills.

e) Financial Education courses, developed by ETP in cooperation with Habitat for Humanity International, are provided on an individual basis – *Don't be Afraid of Money* - for IDA savers and, on a group basis – *Plan Your Future* – for micro-loan borrowers. The course *Don't be Afraid of Money* mostly for people on social welfare is taught interactively and with the use of computers and addresses topics such as saving, loans, financial planning, home budget, and uses real-life examples. Various editions of the course reflect different needs of children, young people and adults from the marginalized Roma communities. The 6-module course *Plan Your Future* for people with low income is taught on a group basis in community centers. The course teaches participants the knowledge, skills and attitudes required to adopt good money management practices for earning, spending, saving, borrowing and investing.

f) Pre-School Education: Almost 80 percent of the Slovak Roma have only basic or no education, about 2% have higher education and approximately 28 % regularly skip school. According to Marcinčin and Marcinčinová, due to inappropriate diagnostic tests and practices, about 10,200 Roma children, deemed mentally retarded, attend special needs schools, compared with 9,200 non-Roma children which means that almost every eighth Roma child of school age is thought to be mentally retarded. ETP Slovakia's carefully structured pre-school education prepares children for their schooling and in 2009 was undertaken in 12 communities. Majority of graduates of ETP Slovakia's pre-school education were not placed in special-needs education, but they continue their education in the mainstream basic schools.

g) Employment: The alarmingly high rate of unemployment, reaching 100 percent in some communities, and the widespread prejudice among employers against hiring Roma workers means that Roma encounter distrust and automatic rejection regardless of their skills. So, unemployment benefits are often the only source of income in entire communities, leading to loss of motivation and working habits. Our network of job clubs, in which our clients were able to increase their qualifications through educational and training courses, also offer information about job offers and job databases. Advice is also given to those interested in establishing a small business. Support is provided to Roma clients in finding employment as well as encouragement to employers to hire Roma.

h) Health: In comparison with the majority, life expectancy of the Slovak Roma is up to seventeen years less due to unsanitary environments, neglected healthcare and a high prevalence of substance abuse. A high teenage pregnancy rate negatively affects childcare and the young mothers' health, therefore ETP Slovakia focuses on young women's and mothers' health, providing lectures and individual consultations to raise awareness about basic healthcare and disease prevention.

i) Social Housing: About one quarter of the 430,000 Roma living in Slovakia live in shacks or homes lacking basic infrastructure and all amenities in settlements which are only inhabited by other Roma families, separated from the nearby towns and villages. In 2009 ETP Slovakia in cooperation with local government and local construction company constructed 12 low standard apartments in the city of Moldava nad Bodvou with the prospective tenants working on site and the homes being made habitable through the tenants' savings, which were match funded.



Gypsy Spirit Award 2009

On 16 April 2009 in the Slovak Radio building, Gypsy Spirit Awards 2009 were given out to organizations and individuals who have helped improve the situation of Roma in Slovakia. The international expert jury, consisting of Michal Kocáb, Alexian Spinelli, Rumyan Russinov, Sylvia Porubánová and Jaroslav Kiska, selected ETP Slovakia – Center for Sustainable Development as the winner in the category of organizations. The jury gave the following reasons for selecting ETP:

For a complex, highly expert and authentic work and services to disadvantaged and marginalized groups, for fighting against poverty and social exclusion in Slovakia with special regard for the Roma in segregated settlements. For implementing the concept of social mobilization, which encourages mutual assistance and support, specifically for creating and co-creating of temporary and permanent job opportunities.

This award reinforces our conviction that an integrated and complex approach to the solution of socio-economic status of the Roma minority in Slovakia is the correct way towards improving the situation. We are glad that our work is being appreciated by experts. We view the award as a challenge to work even harder in poor and socially excluded communities with the goal of promoting a systemic adoption of best practices and solutions.



PROJECTS



Community Bridge Building in Central and Eastern Slovakia

Donors: Financial mechanism EEA, Norwegian Financial Mechanism
Habitat for Humanity International
Open Society Institute (OSI)

Duration: October 2009 – April 2011

The project is dividend into three interconnected modules:

A) Human capacity building

1. Intergenerational education – providing traditional and innovative trainings and courses for all ages in Community Center (CC) that are focused on zouny people, the unemployed and socially excluded, women and young girls.

B) Social capacity building

1. Building the capacities and relationships within the community – various social and cultural events that are prepared in cooperation with the individuals of the target group in order to build their social capacity in CC.
2. Social integration and stabilization of the families – providing innovative, integrated comprehensive services (education, social, legal, healthcare assistance and employment counseling) for all age groups by CC leaders.

C) Economic capacity building

1. Employment counseling – provided in CC by CC leaders in order to assist the long-term unemployed to find a job or contribution for starting their own business.
2. This training is organized in cooperation with the Labor Office and local employers.
3. Practical training “Sharpen Your Skills” – training in construction and reconstruction of the apartments.

Financial resources for the project

All of the activities implemented within the three modules are supported by Financial mechanism EEA, Norwegian Financial mechanism and State Budget of the Slovak Republic. Financial resources for the construction and reconstruction within “Sharpen your skills” training are provided by ETP partners – Habitat for Humanity International and Open Society Institute. Financial resources for the construction and reconstruction of the new apartments are provided by Ministry of Construction and Regional Development of the Slovak Republic.

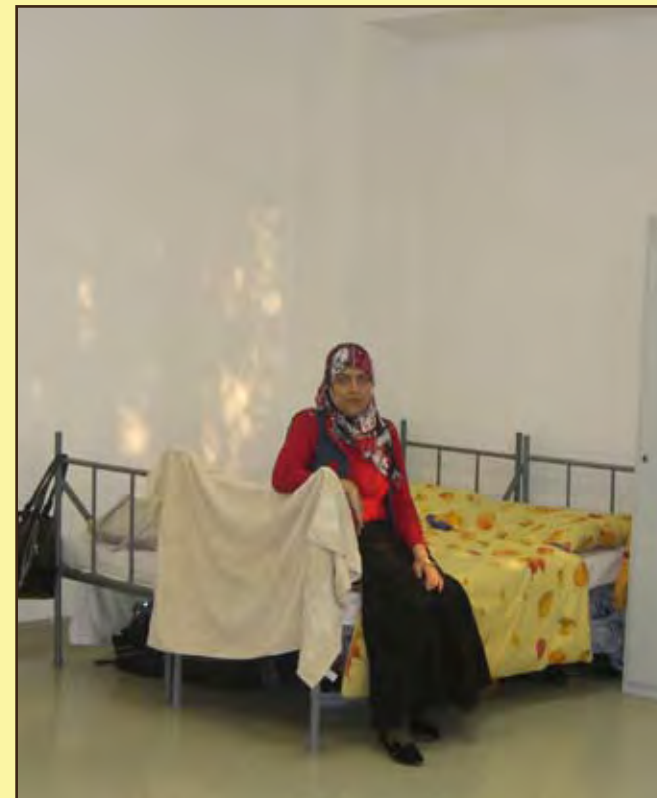


Migrant social services



This was a new client group for us but we discovered many similarities between these stateless and demoralized people and many of our Roma families. The 98 refugees, typically families of children, parents and grandparents, had all lived for several years in the al-Waleed large temporary camp on the Iraq-Syria border. Palestinians, many of whom fled to Iraq from the newly created state of Israel in 1948, were treated well under Saddam's government but immediately after the fall of the former regime, these refugees were seen by Shia militiamen and government security forces as collaborators of Sunni insurgents.

The United Nations High Commission for Refugees, working with the International Organization for Migration, brought these families to a Migration Center managed by the Slovak Government, normally used to accommodate asylum seekers in the city of Humenne as a place of safety and while their resettlement in various parts of the USA was being arranged. Our role was to provide social care and interpretation, a kindergarten, to arrange health care and provide a wide range of activities and classes, including English language courses for all ages. By the end of 2009, 59 refugees had still to be resettled.



Improvement of Housing Conditions for Low-Income Families

Donors: Habitat for Humanity International
The Office of the Plenipotentiary of the Government of the Slovak Republic for Roma Communities

Duration: Throughout 2009

ETP Slovakia continued providing housing micro-loans to clients in Eastern and Central Slovakia. A total of more than 380 families, have used micro-loans to pay for repairs, renovations, and purchases of homes. All borrowers undergo a training course in financial management and also in home improvement skills.

Results: 53 clients have repaid their loan in 2009
and 315 clients continue in their repayments



Individual Development Accounts (IDA)

Donors: Open Society Institute

Duration: November 2006 – December 2009

Low-income families have the opportunity to improve their financial situation by saving and then receiving a bonus (a match funding) equal to the sum saved. All savers receive advice on how to manage their finances, buy a house, or start a business. The long-term aim is to use the experience and evidence to promote an understanding at government level that unconditional social benefits only increase dependency of poor families on the State and remove the motivation to secure an income through their own efforts.

Results: In 2009 there were 123 savers



Po úspešnom sporení sa mohla klientka s tromi deťmi a mamou po piatich rokoch strávených v Avii presťahovať do nového nájomného bytu v Moldave nad Bodvou.





The Svetlogorsk Sea

Donors: SlovakAid – Slovak Agency for International Development Cooperation

Duration: January 2008 - November 2009

Building on previous partnership work in the Svetlogorsk District of south east Belarus, the main goal of this project was to apply the experience and knowledge of Slovak experts relating to the Svetlogorsk Sea, an area of particular environmental importance and with huge agro-tourism potential. The project sought to support long-term, sustainable economic development by promoting local environmental characteristics and culture. Project activities included capacity building in the management of natural resources and the creation of a long-term development plan which also protects for the area's biodiversity.

Results:

- 3 study visits in Slovakia
- 7 training visits in Svetlogorsk
- 10 teachers trained in debate methodology
- 60 students trained in public speaking and communication skills,
- 12 young people the techniques of TV Journalism and
- 25 young people trained as Young Entrepreneurs.

Equipment, including small boats and outboard motors provided for recreational use by tourists, especially fishermen





12 low standard apartments

Donors: Ministry of construction and regional development of the Slovak Republic
Open Society Institute (OSI)
Habitat for Humanity International
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints

Duration: March 2009 - December 2009

ETP Slovakia has started a cooperation with the municipality Moldava nad Bodvou creating a non-profit organization ETP Moldava Housing and was able to receive a grant from Ministry of construction and regional development of the Slovak Republic to build 12 low standard apartments that were finished in 2009.

This project was supported by Open Society Institute that provided financial resources for our clients within our savings program.

Results: 12 finished low standard apartments



CrossRoads

Donors: British Embassy
US Embassy
Foundation Friedrich Ebert Stiftung
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints
The EEA and Norwegian Financial Mechanism

Duration: 2009

In April/May 2009 twelve community social workers were trained to become teachers of this course to train their clients in our community centers.

The EEA and Norwegian Financial Mechanism sponsored project includes funding to enable the trainers to teach CrossRoads, especially those who are demoralized and purposeless and could benefit from some encouragement.

In November/December 2009 further training of peer-educators (17 young Roma people, aged 17 upwards), funded by US Embassy and Norwegian Financial Mechanism, took place.

Results: 29 trainers have been trained to teach CrossRoads classes



Supported by a grant from Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway through the EEA Financial Mechanism and the Norwegian Financial Mechanism





ETP IN SLOVAKIA



COMMUNITY CENTERS

ETP Slovakia's approach is based on an acknowledgement that social, educational, environmental, health and housing issues are interconnected. This concept is very well reflected in the work of our community centers and social clubs, where we provide our clients with comprehensive services. Trained community social workers are in daily contact with whole families, offering them social and other counseling and assistance in finding new work opportunities in cooperation with local labor offices. The community centers are also friendly places where there are social gatherings for hobbies or training.

This section presents examples of the work of our community centers in 2009.

At end of year 2009, the population of Nalepkovo reached 3037. The Roma community consisted of 1437 people and it's estimated that by 2011/12 the Roma population will become the majority in the village. For this reason, we have constructed new apartments and offered continuous improvement of social services in the village.

Nalepkovo has the largest **community center** in the region, which is fully equipped and operates a range of different activities for all age groups. For example, it has a fully furnished room for 4-6 year olds used for pre-school classes, a youth room, a workshop, and an art room.

The trainings and sessions that we provide address issues concerning family life and planning, pre-school education, and issues relating to young moms. They also offer counseling or training in improvement of skills and experience for clients actively seeking employment. Our program, "Crossroads" is focused on personality development which helps the clients to succeed in the labor market. The financial course and training program, "Plan your Future" provides financial education and assistance in planning and managing the income our clients receive.

In addition, clients can access computers and the internet at the community center free of charge. Last year we were able to supply a washing machine in the center and made it available to our clients.

Every day we provide social, legal, and medical counseling, closely cooperating with a team of 2 community social workers and 2 assistants funded by the Government Social Development Fund.



Supported by a grant from Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway through the EEA Financial Mechanism and the Norwegian Financial Mechanism





In 2009 our **Community Center in Hodejov** assisted our clients in social counseling and advocacy. Almost all of our services are regularly used by members of the Roma community, mainly because of the language barrier. Also, they receive assistance in correspondence, dealing with institutions and in translating official documents.

Our clients have shown strong interest in home improvements and in 2009 a total of 34 families took out loans. These loans were used to improve their housing conditions and to make repairs on their dwellings. Despite their modest incomes, our clients were capable of making regular repayments.

Since October, through the „Community Bridge Building in Central and Eastern Slovakia“ project, 70 children have been involved in extra-curricular activities implemented through sport, dance and drama clubs. In addition, the children had the opportunity to take part in our craft program and produced paper and wool products, Christmas decorations and Mother's Day presents. They also learned how to knit and embroider. Roma children have been very happy to engage in these activities. Usually financial or other reasons often prevent them from doing these activities. In 2009 there were 12 children attending our pre-school classes.

Our adult clients participated in the financial training course, in the course entitled “Young moms”, which focused on preparing young girls and women to be responsible parents. They also participated in our program “CrossRoads”. These courses have provided the participants with invaluable knowledge and experience in different areas ranging from family and social life to labor market experience and finance management. Among our social and cultural activities, we would like to mention our participation in the Rimavska Sobota Christmas program, where clients had the opportunity to demonstrate their dance and dramatic talents. Children attending our dance group were invited to present their performance in the local elementary school



Our **community center in Jesenske** opened on the 1st of October, 2009. Before then, there had been only a few activities focused on the integration of the members of the Roma community that makes up about 40% of the village population. Due to our geographical location, it is necessary for us to operate in three languages - Hungarian, Slovak and Roma.

In 2009 we introduced various programs to develop the community life. Among the educational programs the financial education and health training courses were the most popular. Health training courses addressed edification and prevention of common health issues among the Roma minority. In addition we had the "CrossRoads" program and "Young moms" program that is essential for the Roma women. Local children are very happy to visit our community center as we have introduced pre-school education classes four times a week. There are 12 children involved in this program. They learn about basic issues such as hygiene, naming their family members and learning colors. Two of the children are about to start elementary school and have passed the psychological tests without any difficulty.

Our community center also provides a wide range of after-school activities. Among these are music and dance clubs which have become very popular for our clients as they can develop their talents and skills. They were able to present these skills at the Christmas program. Other activities include sports and sewing courses.



Kokava Rimavicou Community Center has been operating since 2001, serving the entire region of Novohrad, with clients coming from both Roma and non - Roma community.

During 2009 our clients attended training courses for young people. These training courses included the “Young Moms” training program as well as courses related to health issues, which provided our clients with the skills and guidance necessary for their everyday life. We also provided free legal counseling, mostly concerning property seizure threats and judicial appeals.

The pre-school classes which prepare children for their entry into primary school have been particularly successful. Both parents and children have enjoyed them because they are free of charge and the teaching quality is very high.

Other after-school activities included music and singing courses which 12 local children have been participating in. They are working with the well-known Roma singer, Janka Sendreiova, who has appeared in Carnegie Hall in New York, Oslo and Lucerna in Prague thus guaranteeing high quality training and tutoring. This group will be part of the 50-strong choir program which performs at the annual Gypsy Spirit Awards ceremony in Bratislava, under the baton of ETP Slovakia’s community social worker in Kokava nad Rimavicou, Vladimir Sendrei.

The Community Center in Moldava nad Bodvou opened in early October 2009. It quickly became a place for many children and adults to spend their leisure time, and if necessary request assistance.

Through the project, „Community Bridge Building in Central and Eastern Slovakia“ many people of all ages have become students, taking part in training courses and a wide range of extra-curricular activities. The courses that we provide include pre-school education which helps the children in entering primary school, school preparation, and the “Young Moms” course for young women and expectant mothers. We are also offering a variety of courses focused on improving the skills and abilities of our clients such as drama, music, singing and dancing, as well as embroidery. The children who attend the drama club have prepared a performance depicting the daily circumstances of their life such as poverty, pain, and hunger, which were displayed in a very striking way.

Serving about 700 people, we feel our Center is very special. This is partly because for so many years children had been asking for a kindergarten and now their dream has come true. Children from very poor families who have long been discriminated against now have the opportunity to engage with other Slovak families.

Our settlement and Community Center is located 2.5 kilometers from the City of Moldava nad Bodvou. We feel that following the establishment of the Community Center, the interest in education and training across all age ranges has risen.



During 2009 the IDA project had 42 participants and 29 of them successfully concluded their savings period and earned their matched funding. We also had 52 clients who took out Habitat loans to improve their homes. In 2009 we joined the program, „Community Bridge Building in Central and Eastern Slovakia“ which features such courses as “CrossRoads”, a program of personal development, which encourages re-entry into the labor market and improvement of education.

Community Center Ostrovany has also been providing courses for young mothers, which train them, to care for themselves during pregnancy. It also provides them with information about their life styles, postnatal care, proper nutrition and illness prevention, etc.

Our extra-curricular activities included an IT course which was attended by 20 participants. 8 out of the 20 participants have already bought a computer or laptop to practice the things they have learned. The computers are also available for the children to play games on and to use for school preparation. Also there are extra-curricular activities such as sports, music and dance. There is also a cooking course, as well as a “clever hands” club for clients wanting improve their skills and abilities.

Our pre-school education takes place twice a week and focuses on introducing children to basic hygiene habits as well as teaching them to count and draw. Our musical band had a chance to perform at the fair in Sabinov. We were able to equip our community center with 3 sewing machines, and provided sewing courses for our clients.

We have been counseling our clients, especially those who are illiterate or elderly, on social and legal matters. The Community Centre also organized a wide range of social events involving over 1600 clients from across the community.





Spišské Podhradie has about 526 Roma residents. There are 12 families living on the outskirts of the city on a site known as Rybníček, while the other families live within the city boundaries. Many local Roma men have now found work in the UK. They often travel back and forth and sometimes take their entire family.

Our Community Center is located right in the center of the town and is easily accessible by all residents. Towards the end of 2009, we have started to provide the "Cradle to Grave" courses under the "Community Bridge Building in Central and Eastern Slovakia" project.

We have a full timetable of activities which are adjusted according to the needs of the participants. Pre-school education is held in the afternoon to allow children to attend morning kindergarten. Our working hours differ every day, which helps to meet the needs of our clients.

Other popular activities include cooking, hiking and soccer. Generally, we have more women participating in our activities than men. However, we are pleased that there are also men attending the course, "Young Moms," which is mostly geared towards women.





Community Center in Rudnany is located in the Roma settlement known as 5RP11, in what was an old boiler room. It has since been rebuilt thanks to a grant from the U.S. Army and now serves as a kindergarten and community center. At this time, more than 99% of our clients are Roma. Although the building was handed over in 2003, it was only in September 2009 that commemorative plaques were unveiled by representatives from the U.S. Army and U.S. Embassy. Gifts of furniture and teaching aids worth \$10,000 dollars were given out.

Also, in September 2009 we received an EU delegation of officials from DG Regio and DG Employment in Brussels who deal with Roma issues. This was led by Ms Mathernova, Deputy Director for Regional Policy, European Commission.

In September, the 3rd Roma Film Festival took place in nearby Spisska Nova Ves. The documentary film, Romale, by Israeli filmmaker Yoram Porath, was screened featuring the life of the Roma communities in Pătoracké and 5RP11 in Rudňany. The film was also shown outdoors to a large audience of kindergarten and community center members.

Throughout 2009, 11 clients saved money under the IDA scheme, of which 4 were aiming to install central heating, while others aimed to lay floors and install wall cladding. Four of the savers also took out Habitat loans to supplement their home improvements.

As part of our participation in the major project „Community Bridge Building in Central and Eastern Slovakia“ we have been running an education course for expectant mothers. We were surprised when a few of the male youths expressed an interest in this course and we now have a separate group of 12 boys who attend regular training sessions which they seem to love!





In October 2009, we were very pleased to commence the project "Community Bridge Building in Central and Eastern Slovakia" in the city of Sabinov. We have been cooperating closely for more than seven years with the Civic Association Devleskero Kher, which has been leading spiritual work amongst the Roma, aiming to transform their lives. This Christian community has greatly assisted the staff of the Community Center in the delivery of social work.

In 2009, we regularly organized clubs, games, tutoring and extra-curricular activities, in addition to regular training courses (pre-school education, young mothers, CrossRoads and financial education). Our Center brings together school children from different social statuses among the Roma where they learn rules about tolerance and how to use proper behavior.

We believe the greatest contribution we can make towards community transformation is by investing in children. Therefore, we regularly organize meetings where we tell parents and children stories, including basic spiritual beliefs. Our most popular extra-curricular activities are dance class for the girls' group and football for the boys' group.

Sabinov seems emptier now as many Roma have gone abroad seeking work. We feel that our work is really special as we have the opportunity to work with such wonderful children and adults who have been happy to work together with us.



The city of **Veľké Kapusany** is located in the district of Michalovce in Eastern Slovakia. Its population is approximately 11,000 inhabitants. Of these inhabitants, the Roma minority consists of 1600 members. 700 of them are integrated within the city, around 500 live in areas where Roma families are highly concentrated, and about 400 live in segregated settlements.

The majority of the Roma speak mostly Hungarian and about 3% speak the Roma language. As within many other communities, it is possible to find both respectable, educated Roma people as well as those living in poverty and poor housing conditions. The city council has shown great interest in the Roma community and culture. However, their approach to community development is rather pessimistic and it has been difficult to convince them that our work can be effective.

Our community workers spent some time „mapping out“ the Roma vision and philosophy of life and concluded that the inhabitants of segregated settlements live in a completely different world. They simply try to survive from day, to day due to their poverty and are often dependent on loan sharks or even begging.

The Roma living within the city try to maintain a good quality of life by working abroad. Their philosophy is similar to integrated Roma in other cities – to ensure housing and to meet other needs of families. Their children attend kindergartens, schools, secondary vocational schools and high schools. Most Roma are not happy with life in this city as the unemployment rate is high. In this respect, the Roma people use every chance they get to seek out job opportunities. They are involved in work activation programs like many other inhabitants of segregated settlements.





Community Center in Simonovce has been continuously providing its comprehensive services in 2009. Our clients have joined the home improvement program that provides them with financial resources which enables them to improve the quality of their living. Currently there are up to 40 clients that have joined our home improvement micro-loan program.

Besides the loan program we have organized various training courses for our adult clients. They have received financial education to improve their skills in managing their finances, and have taken a computer course. In addition there is the "CrossRoads" program and "Young moms" training.

As drug addiction is a growing issue not only among the adults but also among the children in the Roma community, we considered it necessary to prepare drug prevention lessons for our clients as well.

The programs involving the children included a sports club, music and singing courses, and also courses and lessons about the Roma history which helps to maintain their identity and self-esteem. The clients have enjoyed the carpentry club as they were able to make wood products for their own needs and also pieces of furniture. Our community workers also offered courses on fruit production and beekeeping, where the participants made frames for the bee hives.





The year 2009 was a busy yet productive one. We were pleased to arrange very popular activities for all age groups, such as making handmade products and crafts such as wire jewels and glass paintings, as well as baking and decorating various objects using the serviette technique. These activities became very popular among the children, even to the extent where the center's capacity was exceeded. Other children's activities included baking, preschool education for 4 and 5 year-olds, and also our "Jolly children" and "Alphabet fantasy" programs, which helped the children with homework and school preparation, as well as creative works such as painting and drawing.

We also started two training programs for adults – "Young moms" and "Crossroads". The first program focused on providing young girls and women with education for family life, taking care of children and the household, as well as baking, basic personal hygiene and doctor visits. The "Crossroads" program has helped our clients in both spiritual and everyday life. It has aided personality development and assisted them in finding a job.

Additionally, we were pleased to have had success in our vocational training scheme, with the high school year ending with three student confectioners and two students in the 3rd year of secondary school management department, as well as six students attending High School in Kežmarok.

Stara Lubovna Community Center, in cooperation with local Civic Association Humanity in Communities, organized residential camps, trips to the theater and Auschwitz, and also a drama performance at the festival FestRom. We had a high number of clients successfully involved in the IDA savings project and in Habitat loans, and had some success in reducing debt in the Roma settlement. A significant number of clients received social counseling.

DONORS AND PARTNERS

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints

Habitat for Humanity International

Ministry for Construction and Regional Development of the Slovak Republic

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Slovak Republic, Slovak Aid

Friedrich Ebert Stiftung

Open Society Institute

Open Society Foundation - OSF

Office of Plenipotentiary of the Government of the Slovak Republic for Roma

Communities

Embassy of the United States in the Slovak Republic

British Embassy in the Slovak Republic

aha! Process, Inc. Texas USA

Dovetail Consulting, Colorado USA

ETP Moldava Housing, non profit organization

City of Moldava nad Bodvou

City of Spisske Podhradie

City of Stara Lubovna

City of Velke Kapusany

Municipality Cakov

Municipality Ciz

Municipality Drna

Municipality Hodejov

Municipality Jablonov

Municipality Jesenske

Municipality Nalepkovo

Municipality Nitra nad Iplom

Municipality Ostrovany

Municipality Rudnany

Municipality Simonovce

Municipality Velky Blh

Roma Press Agency Slovakia

Office of Labour, Social Affairs and Family Poprad

Office of Labour, Social Affairs and Family Stara Lubovna

ETP SLOVAKIA

Executive Board

Vladimir Ira
Thomas Grey
Miroslav Pollak
Ludmila Komorova
Katarina Stofanova
Milena Buksarova

Supervisory Board

Arpad Lorincz
Peter Handiak
Roland Bussa

Kosice Office

Slavka Macakova
Executive Director

Slavomir Kutas
Housing Program Coordinator

Beata Kopal
Employment Program Coordinator

Viliam Luptak
Financial Manager

Gabriela Valentovicova,
Health Program Coordinator

Peter Sovius
Employment Program Coordinator

Monika Dolakova
Education Program Coordinator

Dana Dolakova
Education Program Officer

Marek Isak
Housing Program Officer

Graham Jeffs
Coordinator of International Cooperation

Community Centers

Stefan Illes
Hodejov 227, 980 31 **Hodejov**

Hedviga Trifontyova
Družstevná 112, 980 02 **Jesenske**

Irma Horvathova
Budulovska ul., 045 01 **Moldava nad Bodvou**

Zdenka Rabatinova
Mlynska 633, 053 33 **Nalepkovo**

Marian Trisc
Ostrovany 60, 082 22 **Ostrovany**

Dana Pustulkova
5RP II, 053 23 **Rudnany**

Zuzana Kollarova
17. novembra 5, 083 01 **Sabinov**

Viera Gondova
Marianske namestie 34, 053 04 **Spisske Podhradie**

Ludmila Stasakova
Podsadok Kulturny dom, 064 01 **Stara Lubovna**

Vladimir Sendrei
Huta 31, 985 05 **Kokava nad Rimavicou**

Ernest Lakatos
Simonovce 146, 980 03 **Simonovce**

Viktor Teru
Hlavna ulica, 079 01 **Velke Kapusany**

ETP SLOVAKIA - CENTER FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

FINANCIAL REPORT

Profit and loss account	Period: 2009 - 2008					
(in EUR)	2009			2008		
Revenues	Activities not subject to taxation	Activities subject to taxation	Total	Activities not subject to taxation	Activities subject to taxation	Total
Revenues from the provided services	10 950	492	11 442	3 419	1 162	4 581
Contributions received	865 166		865 166	2 168 592		2 168 592
Other revenues	5 884		5 884	79 035		79 035
Total revenues	882 000	492	882 492	2 251 046	1 162	2 252 207
Expenses						
Material and energy consumption	68 375	33	68 408	1 147 348	100	1 147 447
Services	262 120	128	262 248	977 826	365	978 192
Staff costs	61 007	30	61 036	5 178		5 178
Taxes and fees	550		550	996	33	1 029
Depreciations	505		505	36 148		36 148
Other expenses	488 273	300	488 573	82 786		82 786
Total expenses	880 829	491	881 320	2 250 282	498	2 250 780
Net profit or loss of current year	1 171	1	1 172	763	664	1 427

Grants and contributions	2009	
Grants	EUR	USD
Habitat for Humanity International	59 967	48 189
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints	10 851	
The Financial mechanism EEA and Norwegian Financial Mechanism	368 156	
Foundation Friedrich Ebert Stiftung	7 000	
British Embassy	7 807	
Open Society Foundation - (OSF)		90 000
US Embassy		10 021
Open Society Institute (OSI)	5000	
Other financial contributions		
SlovakAid – Slovak Agency for International Development Cooperation	45 113	
Government office of the Sloveka Republic	13 200	
UNHCR	70 253	
Office of Labor, Social Affairs and Family EQUAL initiative	83 421	
Total	670 767	148 210

Balance sheet	2009 - 2008	
(in EUR)	2009	2008
Assets	2009	2008
Tangible assets	167 855	165 837
Depreciations	79 260	77 242
Cash	8 565	17 427
Bank accounts	437 781	94 072
Claims	7 175	627 199
Other assets	0	0
Total	542 116	827 292
Liabilities	2009	2008
Registered capital	33 493	33 493
Funds	199	199
Profit or loss of current accounting period	72 008	70 836
Financial obligations	47 830	191 994
Other liabilities	388 586	530 771
Total	542 116	827 292

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the executives of ETP SLOVENSKO:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of ETP Slovensko ("The Company") comprising the balance sheet as of 31 December 2009 and the related profit and loss account and notes including the cash flows statement, for the year then ended and the summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes,

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these Financial Statements in accordance with Act on Accounting No. 431/2002 Z. z. This responsibility includes designing, implementing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements, that are free from material misstatement whether due to fraud or error: selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Auditor's responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance, whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement.

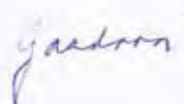
An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statement. The procedures selected depend on auditor's judgement, including the assessments, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design the audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall the overall presentation of financial statement.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of ETP Slovensko as of 31 December 2009, and the results of its operations for the year then ended in accordance with Slovak Accounting law code.

Košice, July 9, 2010

Ing. Eva Gazdová
Licencia SKAu 628



ETP SLOVAKIA – CENTER FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
Zemplínska 15/A
040 01 Košice, Slovakia
Tel/fax: +421 55 72 888 56-8
Web: www.etp.sk E-mail: etp@ke.etp.sk



ETP Slovensko
ETPS
ETP Slovakia