



concordia
PROJEKTE SOCIALE



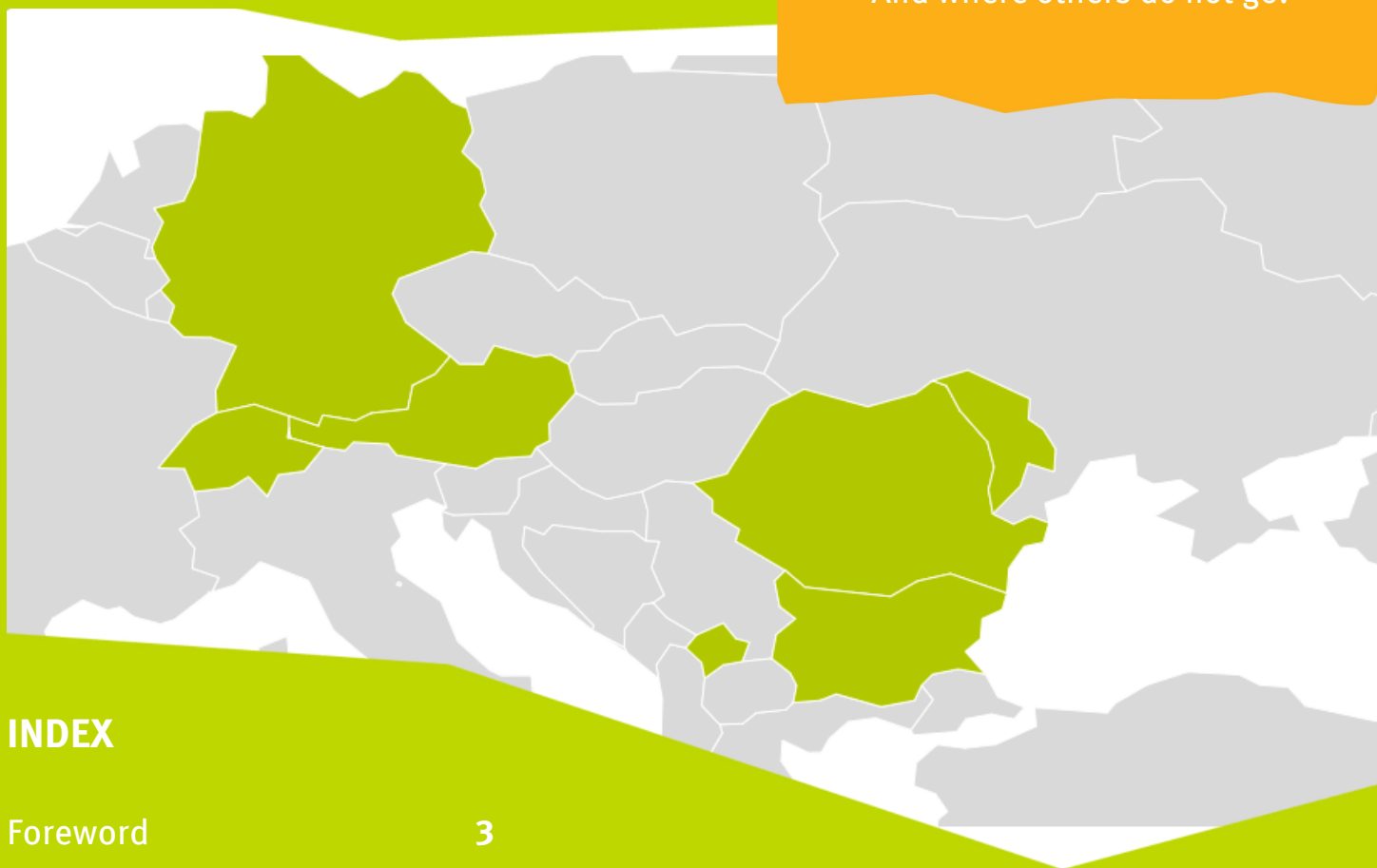
CONCORDIA PROJEKTE SOCIALE
ANNUAL REPORT
– 2021 –

CONCORDIA Social Projects

CONCORDIA is an international, independent, nongovernmental organization dedicated to supporting children, young people and families in need, towards a more independent and responsible life.

CONCORDIA Countries

We go where the need is the greatest.
And where others do not go.



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Dear friends,

The year 2021 marked the thirtieth anniversary of CONCORDIA Social Projects.

30 years ago, CONCORDIA Social Projects was founded to give a home to the many children left to fend for themselves on the streets of Bucharest.

Today, CONCORDIA is an international children's aid organisation with a multifaceted programme, active in 7 countries - in Romania, the Republic of Moldova, Bulgaria, Austria, Germany, and since 2021 in Switzerland and Kosovo.

Through our programme and our five pathways of change we want to make a long-term impact and a better future possible for children and young people.

CONCORDIA is committed to upholding children's rights and fights for every child to have the chance of a self-determined life out of marginalisation.

The year 2021 was also very much characterised by the Covid pandemic, which has continued to take lives and has caused even more hardship and misery of the most vulnerable.

The aftermath of the pandemic, the increase in domestic violence and the regression in access to education cannot be overestimated. CONCORDIA is responding to this situation and has expanded its programme for child victims of domestic violence and day care for children from difficult family backgrounds.

However, the pandemic is not the only crisis. We continue to face increasing uncertainties, climate change and conflicts that erode the resilience of the most vulnerable. As we move forward, we must meet these new challenges while keeping stride with those we know too well already.

As the CONCORDIA board, we would like to say thank you once again to all our supporters for sharing the fellowship with us! To our reliable staff, for whom 2021 was another year in a state of emergency!

We hope that you will join us on yet another stage of our way to a better future.

In gratitude for your active assistance and trust,

Ulla Konrad
Chairwoman of the Board

Thomas Birtel
Member of the Board

Pater Markus Inama SJ
Member of the Board

Bernhard Drumel
Executive Member
of the Board



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Mirela LAVRIC
National Director
CONCORDIA Kosovo

The social and educational CONCORDIA Transit Centre aims to close existing structural gaps of community services for the most vulnerable children, youth and families in the Municipality of Prizren by sustainably developing effective social services tailored to the beneficiaries' needs. Poverty, discrimination, domestic violence, unemployment, early marriages and births, child labor are the most frequent vulnerabilities of the families we work with.

Kosovo facts

According to a study from the Kosovo Agency of Statistics:

- 72.8% of women and 86.5% of men from the communities of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptians in Kosovo can read;
- 6.1% of children 36-59 months old attend any program of early education / pre-school;
- 68.1% is the net rate of children registered in primary education;
- 65% of youngsters attend grades from VI-IX;
- 31.3% of youngsters attend high school;
- 16.6% of children 5-17 years old are engaged in child labour

Kosovo government through the Strategic Plan for Education 2017-2021 aims for a 70% rate of inclusion of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptians in Kosovo children in pre-school education; 95% attendance rate of children in primary school; 85% attendance rate of children in grades VI-IX; 50% attendance rate of children in high school.

Most members of the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptians in Kosovo communities live in extreme poverty and continue to face difficult living conditions. The situation is especially difficult for 20% of these communities living in rural areas





The CONCORDIA Impact Model



Our cross-national CONCORDIA impact model illustrates the short- and long-term goals we are pursuing every day at the individual, family, community, and social levels in all the countries in which we operate.

As a conceptual framework, our impact model provides a holistic perspective about the individual interventions of our programme which contribute to achieving our vision for helping children and young people in need.

OUR VISION:

Children and young people can lead a self-determined life out of marginalisation.





Setting up the CONCORDIA Projekte Sociale in Prizren (CONCORDIA Kosovo)

CONCORDIA Kosovo has been established in December 2020 and starting with 1st of January 2021 took over the Tranzit Centre from the previous carrier organization, Association Loyola Gymnasium.

CONCORDIA Tranzit provides community support services for vulnerable children and young people by tailoring efforts on individual base to improve the beneficiary's socio-economic situation on long-term. The Centre is located in the neighborhood of Tranzit, in the North part of the city of Prizren, a poor area of the Municipality of Prizren, where the great majority of the population belongs to Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities.

In January 2021, CONCORDIA Kosovo obtained the Public Benefit Status (PBS) which has been extended with 1st of April 2022.

According to the first development Strategy for the period 2021 – 2024, by end of 2024, CONCORDIA Kosovo shall be fully embedded in the ONE CONCORDIA (CONCORDIA Social Projects International).

It shall be recognized as a provider of professional social and educational services for most marginalized children, young people and communities in Kosovo.

CONCORDIA will mobilize communities' resources and will join local public and private partners to provide children and young people with avenues for a self-sustained life.





CONCORDIA SDGs

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development contains 17 Goals for Sustainable Development which include social, ecological and economic aspects. CONCORDIA Social Projects is a member of SDG Watch - Austria, while CONCORDIA Projekte Sociale as a sister-organization of CONCORDIA Social Projects, is committed through its program to contribute to the following goals for sustainable development:

SDG1:

SDG2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition

SDG3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages

SDG4: Ensure inclusive, equitable and quality education and promote opportunities for lifelong learning for all

SDG5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

SDG10: Reduce inequalities within the country



The impact Path of the FILLO project includes: Child Care, Community based Intervention, Education and Professional Training, Employment and Social Business & Empowerment.



Services provided by the CONCORDIA Tranzit Centre

The Tranzit Centre runs a school support programme with homework tutorials and additional classes, an early childhood education program for children from 3 to 6 years old, music classes, art crafts workshop, social and psychological counselling for children, young people and their families, vocational counselling and health support. Meetings of the parents and families from the surrounded community are held regularly for exchanges, training and support. A warm lunch has been provided to all children coming to the Centre starting with January 2021 for a good and well-balanced nutrition of children.

With the help of Renovabis, CONCORDIA has received a long-term commitment from the Catholic Central Office for Development Aid (KZE). The project started in October 2021 and will accompany CONCORDIA until June 2024.

The development will gain an even louder voice for the ones unheard and create a safer environment for the most vulnerable to develop independently.





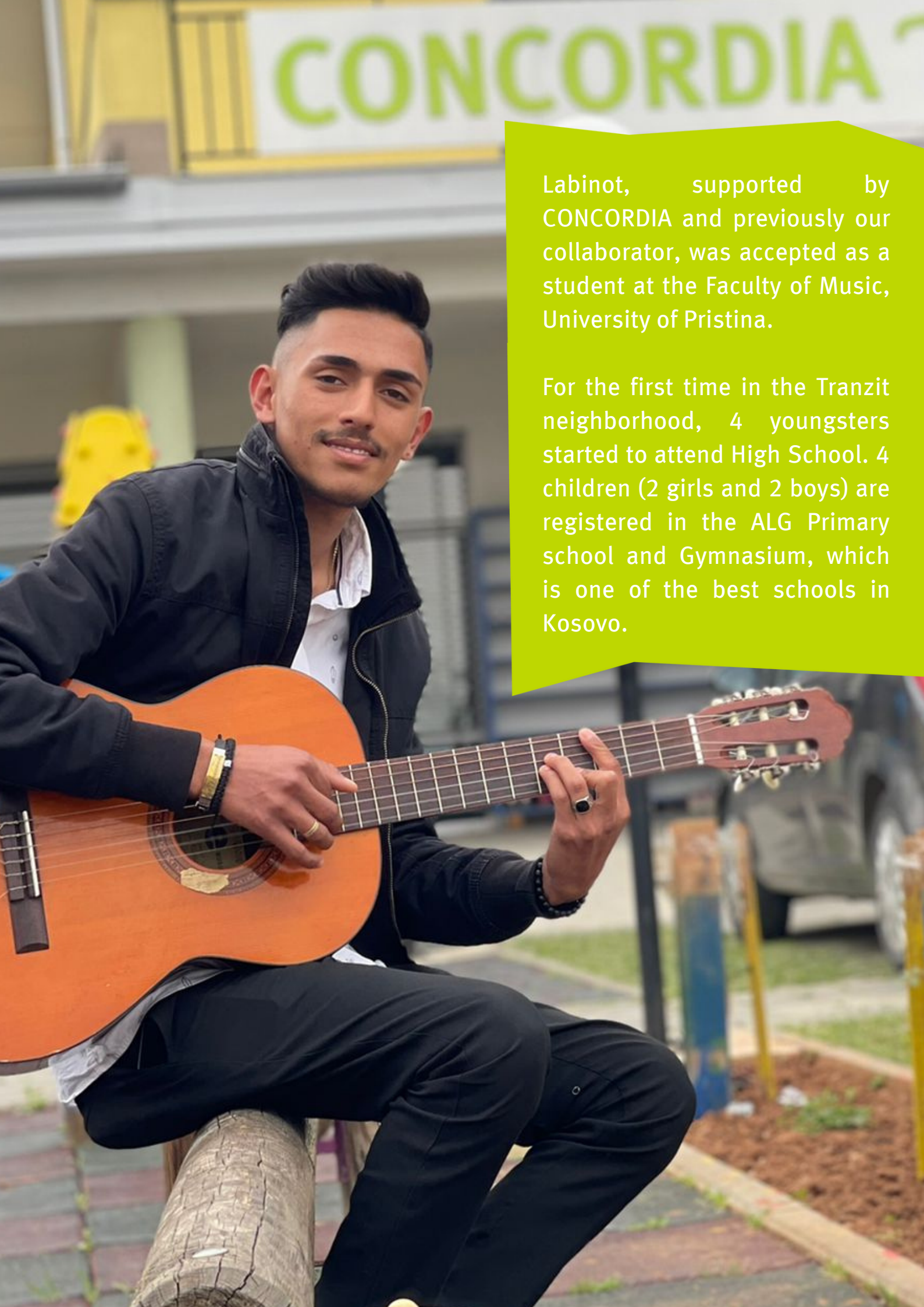
Professionalization of interventions

The process of professionalization of the team and implicitly of the services provided to children and young people, started in April, when a teacher has been employed for conducting the homework, tutoring and leisure activities in the Tranzit Centre. Later on, a financial officer has been recruited in May and a social worker and a psychologist started at the end of June.

With the CONCORDIA expertise from other countries, especially Romania, and considering the new national legislation on child protection services, we started to build the case management approach in a multidisciplinary team, to better address the needs of the children and young people, adding also their families as beneficiaries of our work. Basically, besides homework and tutoring for children, we added the very important component of social and psychological interventions to cover a broader range of needs of children, young people and families the Tranzit Centre serves.

CONCORDIA offered to professional employees / collaborators the opportunity to be supported in continuing their education or joining in a long-term vocational training. One of the professional collaborators took the vocational training for cooking and is now employed as a full-time chef preparing daily meals for the children at our Center. In average, 72 children receive daily meals and snacks every day. For most of them, this is the only meal they have.

Special emphasis in 2021 was put on the training of the staff. The Project Coordinator visited different projects in Romania and Denmark aimed for social workers. He brought the experience gained back in the team in Kosovo and obtained his license from the Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare. Employees also participated in several online trainings.



Labinot, supported by CONCORDIA and previously our collaborator, was accepted as a student at the Faculty of Music, University of Pristina.

For the first time in the Tranzit neighborhood, 4 youngsters started to attend High School. 4 children (2 girls and 2 boys) are registered in the ALG Primary school and Gymnasium, which is one of the best schools in Kosovo.



Donations



32 families received packages containing food and hygiene products.

From which, those families in high-risk situations also received mattresses and wood for heating.



57 children and youngsters received clothing
(winter jackets, shoes, nightwear, scarfs, hats, socks).



69 pupils received school supplies (notebooks, pencils, backpacks, study books).

19 younger children received games, notebooks, colouring and study books.



4 Loyola students received scholarships, school uniforms and sportswear.

4 high school students were provided daily transportation to/from school,
school uniforms and sportswear.

Support for families during COVID-19 outbreak

During the short shut-down of the Centre, the team reacted quickly and provided individual support to families. Individual visits were conducted and families received support packages with basic goods.

Meanwhile, the team supported the students as much as possible with online tools.



Partnerships

Two partnership agreements have been signed and formalized:

Diakonie Kosovo - to provide free group and individual therapy sessions for children with behavioural problems;

NGO PEMA - in favour of the children of Tranzit, to provide them with free speech therapy for children with language difficulties.



Grants

With the help of **RENOVABIS**, CONCORDIA received a grant from the Catholic Central Office for Development Aid. The FILLO project started in October 2021 and will last until June 2024.

This grant, besides the support of the JESUITEN WELTWEIT, creates the possibility for us to expand our services in the neighbourhood and the surrounding district.

Visit from representatives of Klosterneuburg Abbey

In September, representatives from Klosterneuburg Abbey visited the children and families of Tranzit. On this occasion, we visited Dode Gjergji, the Bishop in Kosovo and Don Shan Zefi, the General Vikar of Diocese in Prizren.

Visit from Austrian journalists

In November, we welcomed 6 Austrian journalists for a visit in our Centre. They visited the Tranzit Centre and some of the families of the children of Tranzit as well as interviewed several employees and beneficiaries. In addition, they met with officials from local and national level.





2021: The Tranzit Center in Figures



Children enrolled

88



children and young people participate on average at daily activities

72



children attend early childhood program

19



students:

41 pupils (grade I-IV);
23 pupils (grade V – IX);
5 students (grade X – XII).

69



children and young people solely join the Music School Program

14



children and youngsters registered for music classes

48



children and youngsters participate in an orchestra

30



3 young people are employed

- supportive educational staff;
- cook;
- administration support.

3



portions of food prepared and consumed (in average 67,5 portions / day)

4050



uniforms have been bought for the Tranzit Orchestra

50



Plans for the future

In the future, existing services aim to be enhanced, more children and families to be reached within the Municipality of Prizren and the team to be further strengthened and trained.

In 2022, we will integrate new interventions such as: The Mobile Team, School for Parents, Job Counseling and Women Support Group. The Women Support Group will focus in 2022 in reaching out to girls and women to provide them a safe space for exchange and support. Vocational Counselling will reach out to additional young people and build a bridge between educational activities at Tranzit and future employment opportunities.



CONCORDIA Tranzit Children and Youth Orchestra

On 29 October, the Orchestra was invited to perform at the event organized by the Council of Europe Office in Pristina for the launching of the “Block the Hatred, Share the Love” anti-hate-speech Campaign.

On 17 December, the Orchestra performed for the parents and for welcoming Santa Claus who came with many presents for the children.

On 28 December, the Orchestra performed in one of the most popular shopping Centers in Kosovo – Abi Çarshia as part of their New Year celebration events.







Activities at CONCORDIA Transit During Summer

The Centre remained open during the summer vacation time. Activities continued to be carried, including creative, physical and leisure courses and workshops. The children took dance and karate lessons, participated in drumming workshops and took English classes. Also, the children received hot meals and were able to approach the team for any support needed.





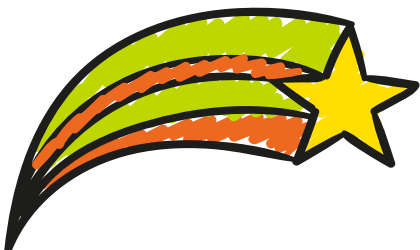
BEYOND NUMBERS

What CONCORDIA Transit Centre Means to our Children



“CONCORDIA has helped me in many ways. However, the most important thing for me is that thanks to CONCORDIA, me and my parents have changed our opinion on the importance of future continuation of school/education. I am also thankful to CONCORDIA for the musical activities and for helping me finish my homework.” **B.G. (15 years old)**

“To me, CONCORDIA Transit Centre is a place that lightens my life even though at home I face many difficulties. Thanks to CONCORDIA, I have not dropped out of school.” **A.B. (13 years old):**





Support for Children

Student's educational progress is monitored and organized between teachers and parents.

Throughout the year, the collaboration with teachers at the school improved and their input helped to draft individual intervention plans for the children.

Less children reported that they are being bullied in school. One of the reasons is that they received appropriate clothing, shoes, school supplies and backpacks.

The pre or after-school program at CONCORDIA Tranzit Centre enriches them individually and empowers them as they learn about their rights or about being a good citizen.

Some of the students have been taken away from the streets where they used to beg for food. Some others were saved from hunger, cold, sicknesses or from being beaten by their parents.

Generally, children report to feel to be heard, appreciated and loved.

The team was able to implement additional activities and focus on the individual support.

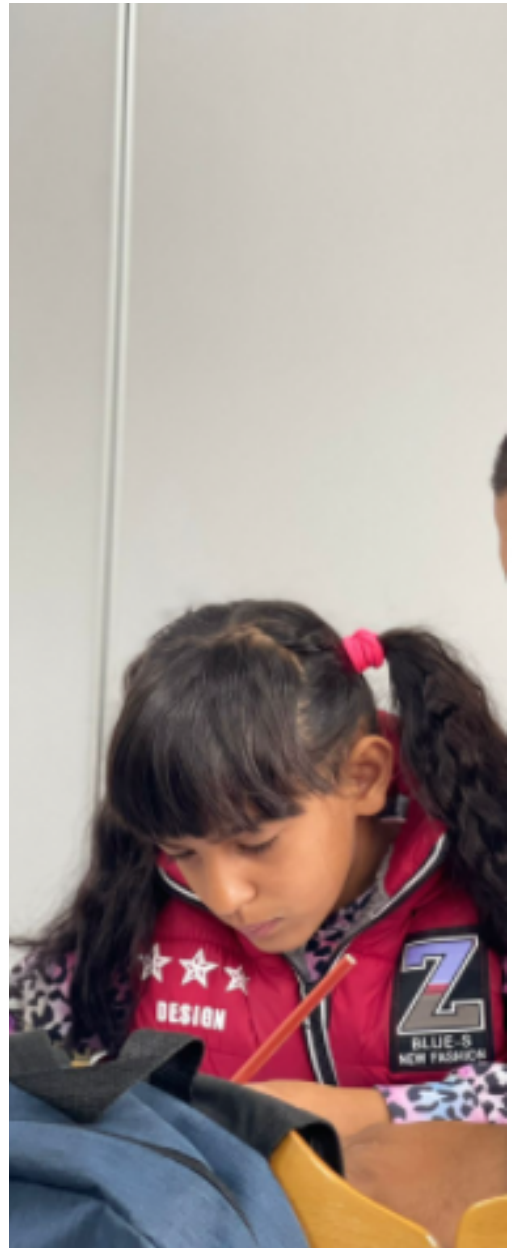
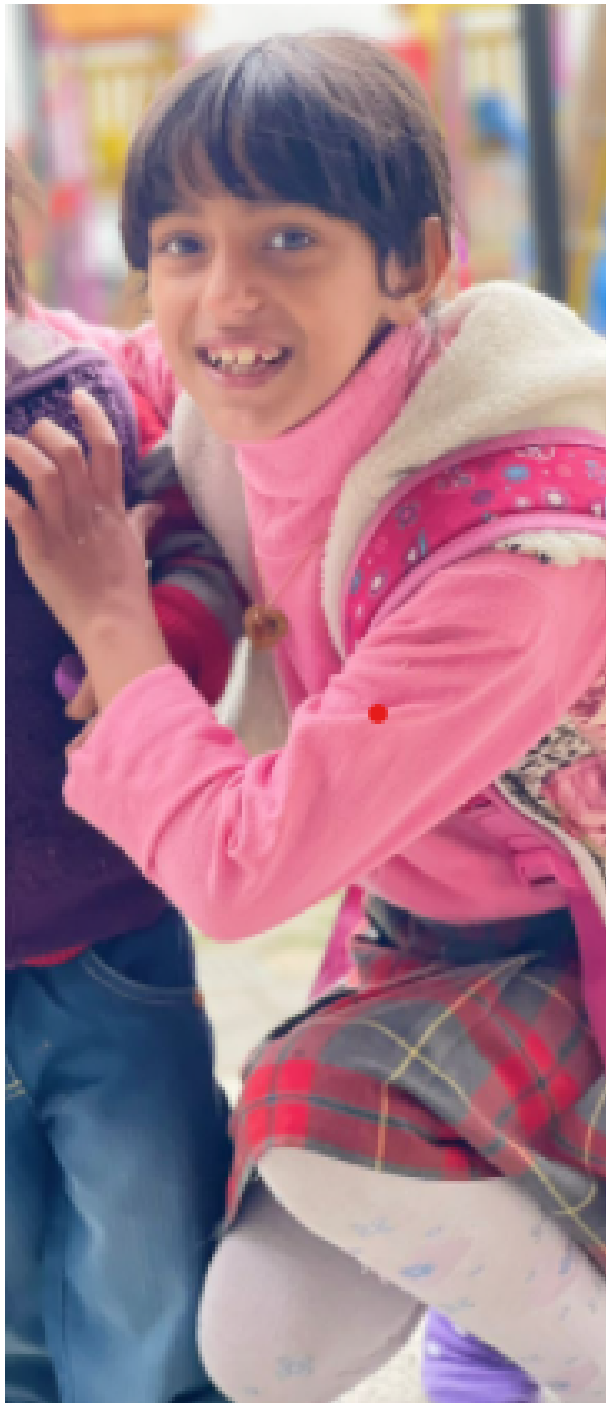


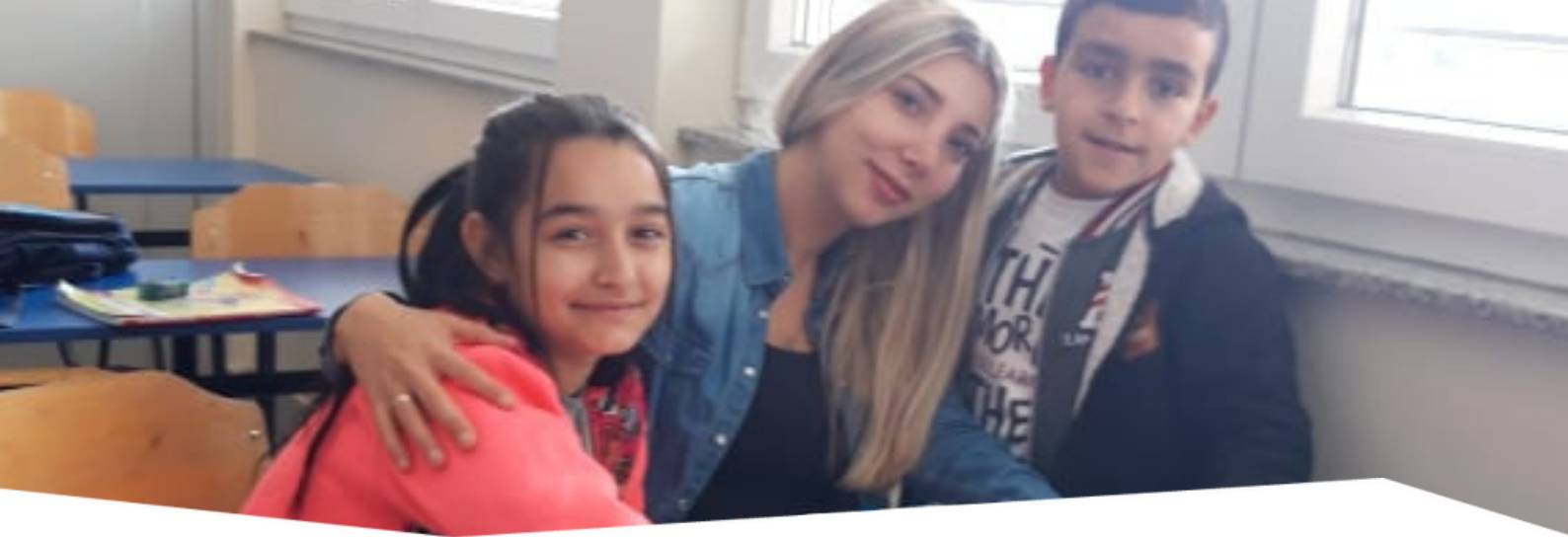
Through the CONCORDIA Tranzit Children's Parliament, members gain a strong voice to advocate for their needs.

100%

GRADUATION RATE OF PARTICIPATING STUDENTS

All Day Care participants graduated the school year and continued their school education.





“ The first thing that impressed me at CONCORDIA is the commitment of the staff to the wellbeing and advancement of all children without distinction. Visiting the families at their home in the very first day of my work in CONCORDIA made me understand even more the seriousness of the work that is done in Tranzit Centre. After several months of work and activities with the children I was very happy with the end of the school year in June, where all the children passed to the next grade. Also, in this year, four children registered in High School and are the very first children of the Tranzit neighborhood who will continue High School. It is especially important that three of them are girls. I truly believe that CONCORDIA is doing an amazing work here in KOSOVO and I hope and believe that it will expand in more cities of our country.

(Saranda Berisha, Teacher)





Support for Young People

Young people are supported to continue their education and enter the job market through counselling, financial support and material support to attend vocational training organized by the Vocational Agency.

CONCORDIA Tranzit



Meet CONCORDIA Tranzit People

Rahmi
Mustafa



“ My name is Rahmi Mustafa.

I have not finished school because we were in Montenegro. Even after we returned to the neighbourhood, I didn't continue my education. Instead, I started to work in construction – as a worker in façade, painting, décor etc.

When CONCORDIA started to receive food from LOYOLA High School, I came to CONCORDIA to work as a food distributor for children. Then, they mentioned that they needed a cook at CONCORDIA. I completed a practice as a cook at CONCORDIA which lasted around 3-4 months.

Now, I am a certified cook and I cook for 70-80 children per day at CONCORDIA.

I am very glad with my work that I have been doing for the past 4 years and I hope to continue working and become a professional cook.



The New Kitchen

The Kitchen of Concordia has started to function as of July 2021. Prior to this, the children of the Centre have been receiving food from Association Loyola Gymnasium in Prizren.

Tranzit Centre beneficiary, Rahmi Mustafa completed his vocational training on “Culinary” and was admitted to Concordia Tranzit as a Chef for the children who frequent the Centre. Every school day, he makes sure that children have at least one healthy meal. In many cases, this is the only meal that these children get to have during their day.







Empowering Women of Kosovo **EWOKOS Project**

 **Scope: Supporting and Empowering Girls, Mothers and Women of Transit**

 **Funding: Land Vorarlberg (Austria)**

 **Duration: 1.11.2021 - 30.06.2022**

Empowering Women of Kosovo (EWOKOS) is making a positive impact in developing a framework of action to empower women of the municipality of Prizren to actively shape a better future and overcome traditional gender relations in the long term.

This overall objective will be achieved by providing professional social support to Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian girls and young women, and consequently, improved health well-being and increased educational and labor market opportunities.

Three immediate outcomes will be realized as a result of this project endeavor:

1. Young women and girls are aware of and take advantage of educational and employment opportunities;
2. Appropriate and targeted services are freely available to women and their families in the community;
3. Development and implementation of a professional approach to overcoming discrimination against women and realizing their full potential.

EWOKOS will reach a total of 15 girls and young women between the ages of 12 - 25. In particular, those who are affected by extreme poverty, have experienced abuse, neglect and discrimination, or are not in education or employment. In addition, 10 women, primarily mothers with many children, underage mothers, mothers of infants and single mothers will be reached. In addition, a total of 50 children will be involved in the planned activities.





Volunteering at CONCORDIA Tranzit Centre

Meet Camilla and Agatha – International Volunteers at Concordia Projekte Sociale.

Camilla Bischoffshausen and Agathe Hurbin are two International Volunteers at Concordia Projekte Sociale. Camilla (19) comes from Frankfurt, Germany while Agathe (23) comes from Paris, France. Both of them are actively involved in volunteering and have gained many experiences through their work in Jesuiten Weltweit Germany & Inigo France. Since September 2021, they have been an integral part of the Concordia Projekte Sociale team.

On their first month of work, Agathe and Camilla started to learn the Albanian language. They managed to learn the language well enough that they were able to communicate with the locals on their own, most importantly – talk to the beneficiaries and get to know them personally. After spending some time with the beneficiaries, Camilla and Agathe became soon enough regular invitees of any event hosted in the Community as they were very well accepted and welcomed by the locals.

Besides learning the language, our volunteers managed to give language lessons in English, German and French to the children who are registered in the Tranzit Center – activities which the children greatly enjoy.

Apart from teaching language courses at Tranzit, Camilla and Agathe helped the children on a daily basis to finish their homework for school. “Look at my homework, I have finished everything. I even separated exercises by colors. Camilla and Agathe helped me out” says Erina, a beneficiary of Concordia Tranzit who was recently registered in the 1st grade of primary school.

On a regular basis, our volunteers participated in the distribution of support packages for the beneficiaries of the project. They assisted in the preparation of these packages by including each important food product / hygienic supply which they would need for a healthy life.

“ *Learning a new language and a new culture is always a great opportunity which shouldn't be missed. In addition, working in social projects such as CONCORDIA Tranzit helps to widen one's horizon. Especially, being away from home and outside of one's own comfort zone is crucial as this is a great experience for personal and professional development.* **”** Camilla Bischoffshausen



Future Independent Life through Learning and Opportunities **FILLO Project**



Scope: Promoting Inclusive Learning and Learning Opportunities in the Republic of Kosovo



Funding: KZE, Renovabis



Duration: 1.10.2021 - 30.06.2025

for 01.07.2024 to 30.06.2025 there is not a budget allocated, but the period will be used for the evaluation of the project)



FILLO aims to provide integrated social, education and health services.

Sustainable social inclusion interventions will support individuals and families to move out of vulnerability and marginalisation. The activities, interventions and services will be implemented on the basis of a holistic approach tailored to the identified needs of the target groups.

FILLO project supports the implementation of the development strategy of CONCORDIA Kosovo 2021 – 2024 with focus on further develop the existing CONCORDIA Tranzit Centre programme to ensure integrated service delivery. This will transform the day centre into a community centre that directly supports vulnerable children, youth, women and families. The delivery of integrated social services at the community level will ensure access to quality social services due to its holistic preventive nature and will generate significant social impact.

DIRECT TARGET GROUPS

- 75 Children (aged 0 - 18 years, especially those affected by extreme poverty and exposed to abuse, neglect and discrimination);
- 25 Young people (18 - 25 years, especially those who are neither in education nor in employment);
- 15 Women (especially mothers with many children, underage mothers, mothers of infants, single mothers);
- 75 Families at risk of falling apart, those affected by extreme poverty, those seeking care for children or adults with disabilities, and groups of siblings left behind by their parents.



Sustainable Start for Activities in CONCORDIA Tranzit” SSACT Project



Scope: Building up the Tanzit Centre as CONCORDIA project



Funding: Renovabis



Duration: 01.03.2021 – 31.12.2021

The project aimed to improve the education and health of 65 children and 7 young co-workers of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian ethnicity from the Tranzit community of Prizren. Thus, we secured the continuation of running activities for the beneficiaries in the Tranzit Centre and started to plan next steps towards a professionalization of the team and a diversification of services beyond 2021.

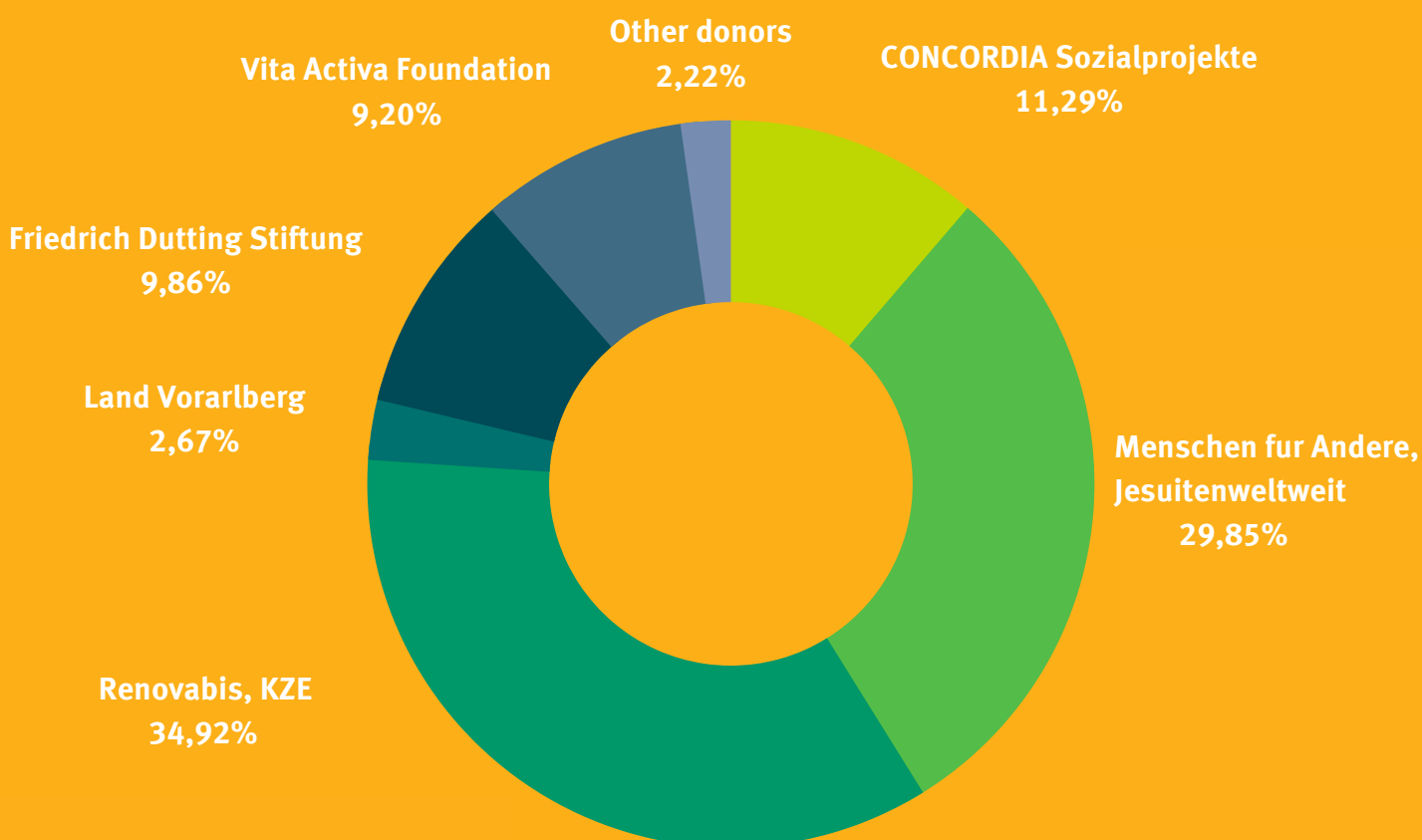
The CONCORDIA Tranzit Centre aims to fill the gap of community’ intervention supporting vulnerable children and youth by tailoring efforts on individual base effectively and improve the beneficiary’s socio economic situation in long-term.

To pursue this aim, following main objectives have been identified:

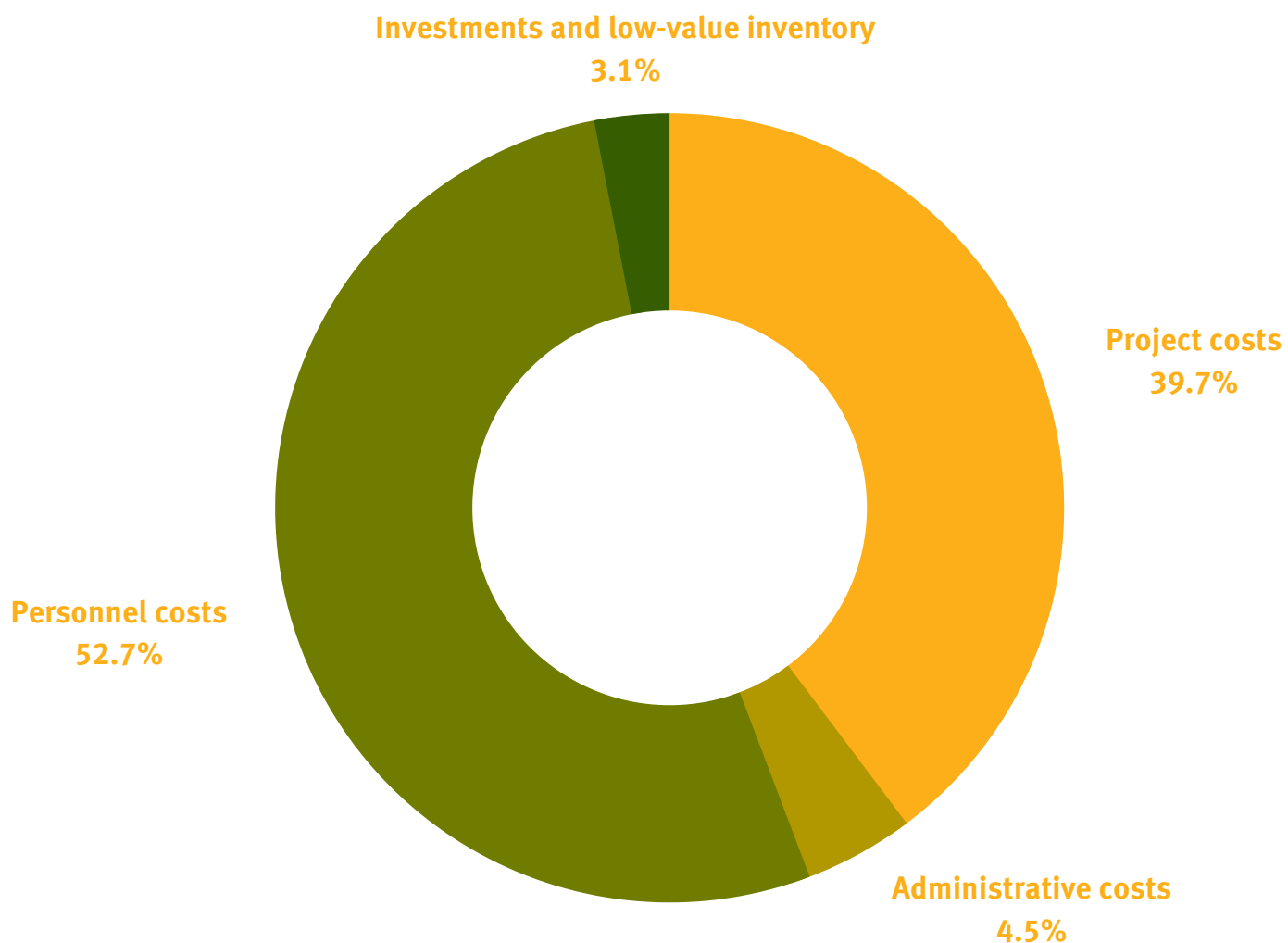
- Improving the education and health of 65 children and 7 young co-workers of RAE ethnicity from the Tranzit neighborhood by offering early childhood educational support, individual homework tutoring, music classes, warm meals for all beneficiaries and sustaining hygienic efforts to minimize the risk of Covid infections;
- Securing the continuation of current activities at Tranzit Centre in short-term and diversify its efforts by offering additional activities to the children in mid-term throughout the project implementation period and beyond;
- Build a professional team for the Centre in order to give access to qualitative teaching tools, pedagogical supplies, technical equipment, and software.

FUND SOURCES ACCORDING TO DONORS

Donor	Income Recognized for the Year	
CONCORDIA Sozialprojekte	22,894	11,29%
Menschen fur Andere, Jesuitenweltweit	60,501	29,85%
Renovabis, KZE	70782	34,92%
Land Vorarlberg	5,404	2,67%
Friedrich Dutting Stiftung	19,990	9,86%
Vita Activa Foundation	18,644	9,20%
Other donors	4492	2,22%
Sub-total (I)	202.707	100,00%
Other Donors		
Ahmad	999	0,49%
Oma Alice	1,996	0,98%
Keshilli I Europes	1,497	0,74%
Renovabis Small Scale	21213	10,46%
Renovabis Donor - Fillo Project	49569	24,45%



TYPES OF COSTS



Project Cost (Living, transportation, other)	80547,65	39,74%
Administration and operating	9082,35	4,48%
Personnel costs	106855	52,71%
Investments and Low value inventory	6222	3,07%
Sub-total (I)	202.707	100,00%

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

- Mrs. Alice Kampmann
- Mr. Ahmad Shamim
- Mrs. Perihane Skenderi
- Mrs. Drenusha Zajmi Hoxha
- Mr. Erxhan Galushi
- Mr. Defrim Idrizi
- Mrs. Biljana Gipsy
- Association Loyola Gymnasium
- Council of Europe Office in Pristina
- Children Evangelism Fellowship
- Supermarket BELI SHPK
- Mall Abi Carshia
- Monastery of Decani





SPECIAL THANKS TO CONCORDIA TRANZIT TEAM

- Bardhyl Metkamberi (CONCORDIA Tranzit Project Coordinator)
- Krenar Mustafa (Educator)
- Rahmi Mustafa (Cook)
- Hane Bucaj (Educator)
- Ramadan Saiti (Night guard)
- Skender Krasniqi (Night guard)
- Zoja Mersulaj (Janitor)
- Adonis Gjini (Music teacher)
- Uliks Hoxhaj (Music teacher)
- Berat Tafallari (Music teacher)
- Egzona Dullaj (Music teacher)
- Marigona Delija (Music teacher)
- Rustem Gashi (Music teacher)
- Mirela Lavric (CEO/Executive Director)
- Saranda Berisha Teacher)
- Gjeneta Çoçaj (Finance Director)
- Edona Lipoveci (Psychologist)
- Jetmir Mustafa (Educator)
- Argenita Mijalica (Social worker)
- Fiona Pirana Project officer
- Nehari Shporta (Nurse)
- Agon Baxhaku (Social worker)
- Mynever Basha (Teacher)





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