

MIRCHE ACEV GJORCE PETROV, SKOPJE



"Change takes time. But we need basic infrastructure first. Now we have that – we have the new trashcans – so we can begin the Greening process"

– Sonja Palchevska Kjoseva
(Mirche Acev Director)

The Macedonian Green School Program reduces the environmental impact of Macedonian primary schools and creates better learning environments through *renovation, education, awareness promotion, and student empowerment.*



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PROJECT BACKGROUND

Since 2007, USAID Primary Education Project contributed over US\$25,000 worth of renovations to the school, with donations from the municipality and community exceeding US\$24,000 to improve learning conditions and decrease expenditures. The money was used to install new windows and doors, florescent lights and replace leaky faucets. Mirche Acev has become very active in other organizations which financially support many of their projects [Eco School Network, Open Fun Football, and Green Pack]



STRATEGIES AND RESULTS

When the Green Club was founded in 2008, the student members continued greening the school with different projects, including assisting the local utility company in collecting recyclable bottles, creating and distributing informational flyers to the community, participating in a public dialogue about water usage, communicating with local media outlets, and running a campaign called "ride the bike" to encourage community members to use environmentally friendly forms of transportation.

This coming year, Mirche Acev's GC is continuing to integrate themselves more and more into the school's curriculum by working with teachers to work "green activities" into their lesson plans. A chemistry teacher has already begun working with students to filter and analyze water in the classroom and a biology teacher has agreed to help make recycled paper.

The students and staff both feel empowered and impressed by the longevity and effect they have on their community. One student commented on the change that has occurred since starting the project, "Environmental activities used to come from the outside and would only happen once in a while. Now they are ongoing because we keep them going".

"We feel supported and listened to. Even the counselors from the Municipality want to talk to us when they come to visit "
-- Mirche Acev Student



ABOUT MIRCHE ACEV

Mirche Acev is a centrally located primary school in the municipality of Gjorce Petrov in the capital city of Skopje. It serves grades 1-9 with 939 students and staff members.



For more information, please visit our website: www.greenschools.org.mk

