

**CHF PROJECTS IN RAZANJ ACTIVATED COMMUNITY**



*Danica Markovic, registrar in Razanj Municipality, on a temporary job: CDC meeting*



*Public Works in Razanj: Cleaning of the local river*

RAZANJ, SERBIA - CHF International and residents of Razanj repaired water supply system and repaired local roads, through Community Revitalization through Democratic Action CRDA program, supported by USAID.

Razanj is situated near Belgrade - Nis highroad, but it is far from big urban centers. Razanj was completely isolated during past years and no one invested in development before CHF came to work here. People have many problems, but the biggest one was lack of drinking water. People were taking water in the water bucket to their homes. It was impossible to repair water supply system without CHF help. New water supply system provides better water distribution around the whole town and people were very satisfied.

This project activated people from Community Development Council (CDC) in Razanj to initiate some local problem solving by their own. Citizens of Razanj are not well informed since there are no media houses which would cover this part of Serbia. This is why CDC initiated fundraising for cable TV in Razanj, and all residents financially supported this action. Razanj CDC also initiated renovation of the sport fields, which would be mainly used by young people.

Miroljub Vujcic is director of the School in Razanj. This fishing fun says that

people from CHF learned them to be aware of their nature potentials. He says that there is no industry in Razanj at all, and that people are working in agriculture. But agriculture potentials are not used. "There are no jobs and cultural events, and big number of young people is forced to leave Razanj." This is why CDC decided to initiate Internet café opening. CHF decided to support this project, which would additionally improve life conditions in Razanj. Goran Vukadinovic is a president of newly founded Association of Roma people in Razanj. He was working as a street seller for the whole life and now he tries to help Roma people in Razanj, and everyone from CDC is helping him in his efforts. Solidarity within people improved and Razanj Municipality also support CHF and CDC work.

Danica Stankovic, is working as a registrar in Razanj Municipality. She says that relations in Razanj changed a lot since CHF came. "The 'sleepers' are awaked and also our relations toward community and our possibilities. Now we think all together on the ways we could improve situation in Razanj."

Besides her registrar job, Danica is very active CDC member in Razanj and she contributes that young people stay in Razanj. This is the way she will have more jobs working as a registrar and marrying people.