



MenCare



Conference:
Fatherhood and Gender Equitable Parenting in the
Balkans: Practice, Policy and Research

November 11th – 13th 2015
Hotel Terme, Ilidža/Sarajevo
Bosnia and Herzegovina

The Fatherhood Conference Conclusions

„Fatherhood and Gender Equitable Parenting in the Balkans: Practice, Policy and Research“

Sarajevo, 11th -13th November 2015

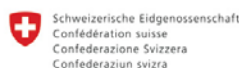
CARE International Balkan with its headquarter in Sarajevo with patronage of Member of Presidency of BiH dr. Mladen Ivanić and partnership of the Ministry for Human Rights and Refuges BiH, Agency for Gender Equality BiH organized international conference *„Fatherhood and Gender Equitable Parenting in the Balkans: Practice, Policy and Research“* that was held November 12th-13th 2015 in Hotel Terme Ilidža, Bosnia and Herzegovina.

This conference is organized by CARE International Balkans, in partnership with local non-governmental organizations and with the support of CARE Norway, Austrian Development Corporation, OAK Foundation and Swiss Government.

The goal of the conference has been to promote best practice and policies that support fathers and care givers to be more actively engaged in all aspects of child care and home life. We have invited international and European experts to share current knowledge in the field, with a noted expert Dr. Gary Barker presenting on the State of the World fathers, the first of its kind report on fatherhood around the world. In addition current efforts in the wider Balkans region about more equity and equitable fathers' engagement in fatherhood has been shared.

This Conference is part of the activities of the **“Boys and Men as Allies in Violence Prevention and Gender Transformation in the Western Balkans“** an initiative focused engaging boys and men in the promotion of gender equality and addressing all forms of violence. In 2015 CARE and partners launched the “Super dad” campaign, part of the Global Men Care campaign, whose aim is to promote men`s involvement as equitable, responsive and

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non-violent fathers and caregivers.

Conference was attended by 87 participants from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Croatia, Albania, Kosovo, Switzerland, Bulgaria, Jordan, Georgia, Austria and U.S.A.

We have reached following conclusions:

- It is necessary to ensure intersectoral approach in promoting themes and dealing with engaging fathers;
- Use rich international experience and practice but also be aware of all challenges in creating approaches – strategies and methodologies;
- Create politics and strategies that will contribute equal engagement of fathers in parenting because that reflects positively on healthy lifestyles, health but also economy aspects in the family;
- Theme of engaged fatherhood in family has a support of international standards, first of all SDG “SDG“ (Sustainable Development Goals) and „Europa 2020“;
- It is necessary to include wider specter of domestic and international actors in promoting engaged fatherhood, father’s inclusion, creating education programs, following implementation and valuing results of all ventures/projects.

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