

ANNUAL 20 REPORT 23



ANNUAL REPORT 2023

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A year of dedication and impact at Nisma ARSIS



Friends, partners, supporters and colleagues,

Since our founding, we have built substantial and comprehensive knowledge of how to protect children at high risk and their families, and of the policies and practices that impede their well-

being. As we reflect on the past year, I am thrilled to share our annual report, a year of significant progress and impact in our mission to serve vulnerable children, youth, and families.

In the past year, amidst numerous challenges, our organization has remained steadfast in its commitment to addressing the critical issues faced by those in difficult situations. Through advocacy, direct support, and collaborative efforts with public and nonpublic stakeholders, we've worked tirelessly to ensure the rights and well-being of children, youth, and families are upheld. Our comprehensive programs and services have had a profound impact on countless lives, providing essential support to those affected by abuse, violence, neglect, and socio-economic hardship. Guided by the stories and needs of those we serve, we've strived to create a safe space where voices are heard, needs are met, and their lives are shaped with care.

In addition to direct intervention, we've actively engaged in prevention, education, and capacity-building initiatives, engine to the establishment of two new Child and Family Support Hubs in Albania.

By partnering with community organizations, conducting workshops, and spearheading public awareness campaigns, we've empowered individuals and organizations to recognize and address issues of child well-being and family strengthening effectively. None of these achievements would have been possible without the dedication of our exceptional team and the unwavering support of our community. To the children, youth, and families we serve, your bravery and resilience inspire us every day.

To our valued supporters, donors, partners, and volunteers, your trust and support have been crucial to our success. Your belief in our mission and your contributions have enabled us to expand our reach, develop innovative programs, and touch the lives of more individuals than ever before. We extend our deepest gratitude for your unwavering commitment to our cause.

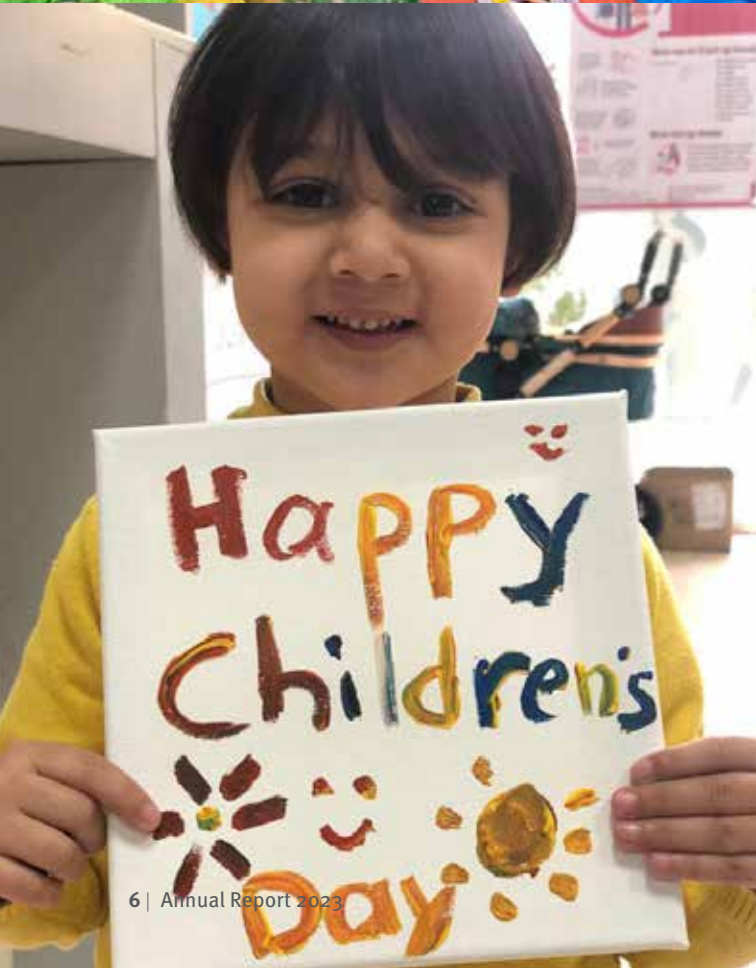
I encourage you to read our annual report, offering a detailed glimpse into our accomplishments, obstacles, and upcoming initiatives. As we embark on the unveiling of our new strategic planning document in 2024, your continued trust, support, and faith in our endeavors are deeply valued by everyone in our organization.

Because we care...

Ana Majko,
Executive Director

Tirana, April 2024





Our mission

“At Nisma ARSIS we are committed to advancing the rights of children, youth and their caregivers facing vulnerability, providing comprehensive services, and facilitating their dignified integration into society.”



Our vision

“To create a society where the rights of every child and individual are respected, and vulnerable groups are empowered to lead fulfilling lives.”

Because we care...



Our core values

Community - For Nisma ARSIS, the community is a shared sense of belonging, collaboration, and interconnectedness among individuals united by shared values, goals, and interests. It involves fostering relationships, promoting inclusivity, and actively engaging with diverse members.

Diversity - Nisma ARSIS recognizes that working with children, youth, and their caregivers, regardless of their background, lies at the core of its strength. To fulfill its mission, Nisma ARSIS respects the diversity of the people it supports. It is committed to equal opportunity for all and respect for difference.

Teamwork - Nisma ARSIS believes in the collaborative effort of individuals working together towards a common goal. This involves the sharing of ideas, skills, and resources, as well as mutual support and encouragement.

Professionalism - Nisma ARSIS encompasses the adherence to the highest ethical standards, competence, and respectful behavior in all interactions. It involves a commitment to quality, responsibility, and continuous improvement.

Integrity - Consistent adherence to moral and ethical principles that involve honesty, transparency, and a commitment to doing what is right, even in challenging situations, is paramount. For Nisma ARSIS, integrity is fundamental in building credibility with donors, partners, and the community served. It ensures that the organization operates ethically and with the utmost trustworthiness.



Core areas of expertise

As a national organization, Nisma ARSIS in 2023 focused on 8 core principles that underpin our work. Integrating these elements, we aim to achieve sustainable and long-lasting results, ensuring the best possible outcomes for children, youth, and their families who are in vulnerable situations, at risk, or victims of various challenges.

In 2023

We represented 5940 children

We have provided social care services to 1204 children, and their families

We have assisted 977 children and assisted with immediate emergency response services

We have supported 57 children victims of severe forms of abuse

We have provided capacity building programs to 276 professionals

We have advanced policies and contributed in the legislation framework on child protection and social care services.

Child Protection:

- Strengthening child protection mechanisms at the national and local level
- Child Protection Response in emergencies
- Prevention of violence in emergencies
- Provision of safe accommodation and shelter for survivors of violence, abuse, and trafficking
- Provision of shelter and immediate services to unaccompanied and separated children and returnees
- Capacities building of the statutory child protection and social protection workforce



Justice for children:

- Provision of child-friendly justice services in Lezha and Kurbin
- Contribution to the new National Justice for Children Plan
- Provision of psychosocial services to children in contact or conflict with the law in Police Stations

Child Care

- Provision of support to family reunification of children with their families process and enhancement of care alternatives to residential care for children
- Provision of technical support to state institutions (MHSP, SSS, and SARPC) in the de-institutionalization process
- Development and implementation of the Family Strengthening service models and Professional Foster Care
- Development of protocols for the de-institutionalization process
- Provision of direct supporting services for children without parental care
- Provision of capacity building to statutory workers within the alternative childcare services



Roma and Egyptian:

- Provision of access to formal and informal education for Roma and Egyptian children
- Provision of inclusive education opportunities in the Lana Bregas community
- Provision of Early Childhood Development program in Tirana
- Assistance to families with difficult socio-economic situation
- Provision of the Mobile School program in Roma and Egyptian communities



Supporting Afghani evacuees:

- Provision of Safe spaces for Women and Children
- Early identification, prevention and response to violence
- Provision of psychosocial services for women and children
- Rehabilitation and reintegration program for women and children
- Provision of legal support and case management

Trafficking in human beings:

- Increasing awareness of the risks and consequences of human trafficking
- Provision of preventive services to populations at risk of human trafficking
- Provision of rehabilitation and resocialisation services to people at risk and those who have been affected by human trafficking

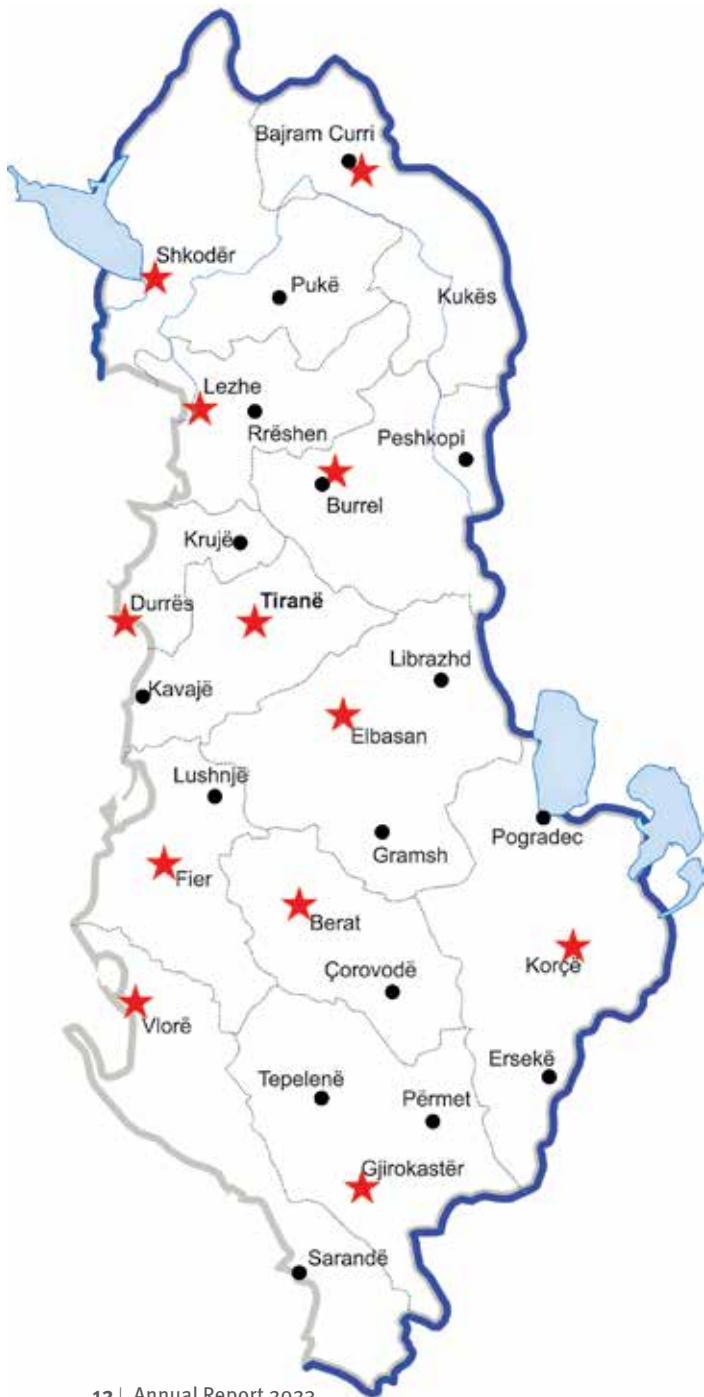
Youth:

- Provision of programs for community participation and enhancement of social capital
- Empowering youth through sportive mental health programs in Tirana
- Participation of youth in youth clubs at the House of Colors for community and citizen engagement

Multidisciplinary Services:

- Multidisciplinary services in the community center “House of Colors” - since 2010
- Multidisciplinary services for the Albanian returnees “Rashbull” - established in 2020 and handed over to Durres Municipality in June 2023
- Multidisciplinary services for returnees’ children aged 0-8 in Selita - since 2019
- Integrated specialized mental health, psychosocial services, economic empowerment and family strengthening programs for children, youth, and their families victims or in need of protection





Where we worked in 2023

In 2023, Nisma ARSIS operated in 24 municipalities across Albania. Through partnerships with 32 organizations and institutions across the country, Nisma ARSIS's programs positively affected 5940 children with their varied initiatives.

- ★ Municipalities of Tirana
- ★ Municipality of Kamza
- ★ Municipality of Korca
- ★ Municipality of Vlora
- ★ Municipality of Durres
- ★ Municipality of Kurbin
- ★ Municipality of Lezha
- ★ Municipality of Shengjin
- ★ Municipality of Elbasan
- ★ Municipality of Kruja
- ★ Municipality of Cerrik
- ★ Municipality of Kavaja
- ★ Municipality of Rrogozhina
- ★ Municipality of Peqin
- ★ Municipality of Malesi e Madhe
- ★ Municipality of Fush Kruje
- ★ Municipality of Kukes
- ★ Municipality of Burrel
- ★ Municipality of Bulqize
- ★ Municipality of Lushnje
- ★ Municipality of Pogradec
- ★ Municipality of Prrerjas
- ★ Municipality of Diber
- ★ Municipality of Belsh

What we achieved in 2023 in numbers

24	municipalities in Albania
2	community services and one emergency shelter for children at high risk/victims of abuse, violence, trafficking and children without parental care, etc)
20	projects implemented at the national level
45	institutions cooperated (including schools, CPUs, DSS, SARPC, SSS, NAES, CPCMY CVE, etc)
32	organizations partnered
2	child and family support hubs established
5940	children reached through our interventions
977	children and mothers in need of protection assisted with immediate emergency response services
160	children and their families assisted with reintegration and rehabilitation programs
65	youth engaged in our youth network
276	professionals capacitated and engaged in our network





Reduced risk of child abuse, exploitation, trafficking and family separation, safety and better chances for immediate support and recovery

1. Strengthening child protection mechanisms

In 2023, Nisma ARSIS continued its commitment to strengthening child protection mechanisms across Albania, both at the national and local levels. Through close collaboration with Child Protection Units throughout the country, we provided comprehensive professional and technical support to **125 professionals** (child protection workers, frontliners, members of ITGs, psychosocial teams in schools, etc). Our expertise encompassed various aspects of child protection, including legal frameworks and policies, case management procedures, deinstitutionalization process and the direct provision of social care services.

Responding to heightened risks of child abuse, exploitation, trafficking, and family separation program in partnership with UNICEF Albania funded by UK Embassy,

Prevention, immediate and integrated child protection services to children potential victims of trafficking/victims of trafficking program funded by ARISE Foundation,

Refugees, particularly children and women, have access to qualitative prevention and response services against abuse, violence, and neglect program in partnership with UNICEF Albania funded by USAID,

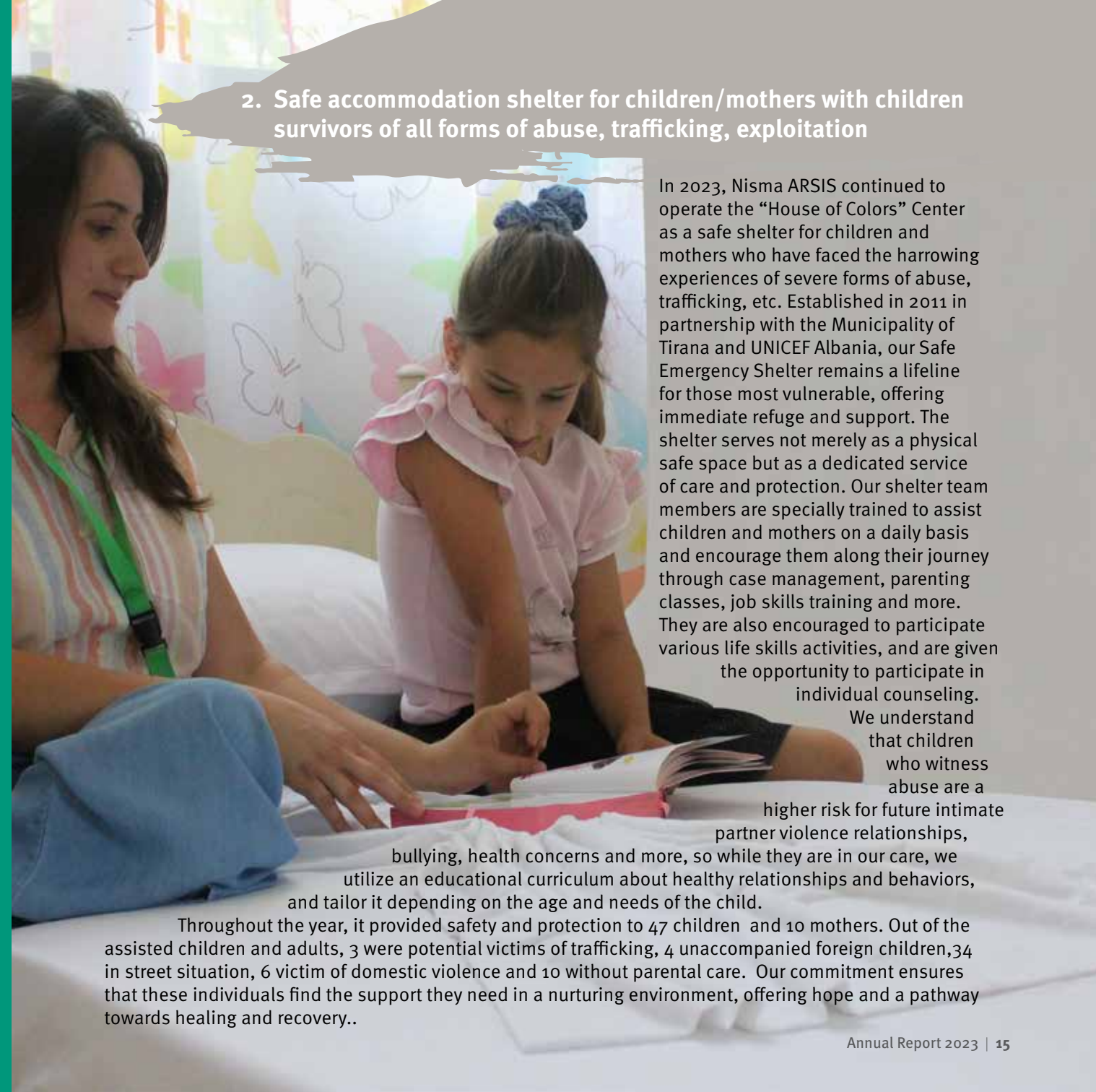
Continuum of psychosocial support through child friendly spaces for the Afghan children in emergency situation program in partnership with Save the Children and UNICEF Albania funded by USAID,

Prevention, immediate and integrated child protection services to children most at risk funded by US Embassy in Tirana,

A safer and more resilient cyber space for children and youth program of Smart Balkans in partnership with IDM and funded by Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Contributing programs

2. Safe accommodation shelter for children/mothers with children survivors of all forms of abuse, trafficking, exploitation



In 2023, Nisma ARSIS continued to operate the “House of Colors” Center as a safe shelter for children and mothers who have faced the harrowing experiences of severe forms of abuse, trafficking, etc. Established in 2011 in partnership with the Municipality of Tirana and UNICEF Albania, our Safe Emergency Shelter remains a lifeline for those most vulnerable, offering immediate refuge and support. The shelter serves not merely as a physical safe space but as a dedicated service of care and protection. Our shelter team members are specially trained to assist children and mothers on a daily basis and encourage them along their journey through case management, parenting classes, job skills training and more. They are also encouraged to participate various life skills activities, and are given the opportunity to participate in individual counseling.

We understand that children who witness abuse are a

higher risk for future intimate partner violence relationships,

bullying, health concerns and more, so while they are in our care, we utilize an educational curriculum about healthy relationships and behaviors, and tailor it depending on the age and needs of the child.

Throughout the year, it provided safety and protection to 47 children and 10 mothers. Out of the assisted children and adults, 3 were potential victims of trafficking, 4 unaccompanied foreign children, 34 in street situation, 6 victim of domestic violence and 10 without parental care. Our commitment ensures that these individuals find the support they need in a nurturing environment, offering hope and a pathway towards healing and recovery..

3. Provision of immediate psychosocial support in Police Stations in cooperation with State Police in Albania

In 2023, Nisma ARSIS continued its commitment to providing quality psychosocial services to children in contact or conflict with the law, operating beyond official working hours and during weekends. Our dedicated team offered 24/7 support across 9 police stations in the municipalities of Tirana, Kamëz, Krujë, Fushë Krujë, and Vorë, aiming to safeguard the best interests of the child involved. Through a MoU with the Albanian General State Police Directory, Nisma ARSIS has institutionalized this service, to expand its reach nationwide. The team’s primary focus was on delivering high-quality psychological and social services to prevent re-victimization and promote the well-being of children undergoing interviews. This service served as a supplement to the existing child protection system, addressing the gap in human resources and ensuring children’s right to assistance by a psychologist and Child Protection Worker in police settings, as stipulated by the Criminal Procedure Code for Minors. This intervention model not only prioritizes immediate support but also strengthens the link between the juvenile justice system and child protection services.

In 2023, our efforts resulted in providing psychosocial assistance to 897 children in conflict or contact with the law, including 217 girls and 680 boys, across police stations and field services.



Gender	Group ages				
	0-6	7-10	11-14	15-18	Total
Girls	11	19	69	118	217
Boys	19	20	191	450	680
Total	30	39	260	568	897

Out of the assisted children

197
were identified as witnesses

296
as victims

403
as offenders

Recognizing the varying levels of risk these children faced,

460 cases
were referred to responsible child protection structures in the respective administrative units.

Nisma ARSIS achieved:

- Timely referrals and coordination
- Dignified treatment and safety assurance
- Continuous monitoring and follow-up
- Valued psychosocial support and counseling

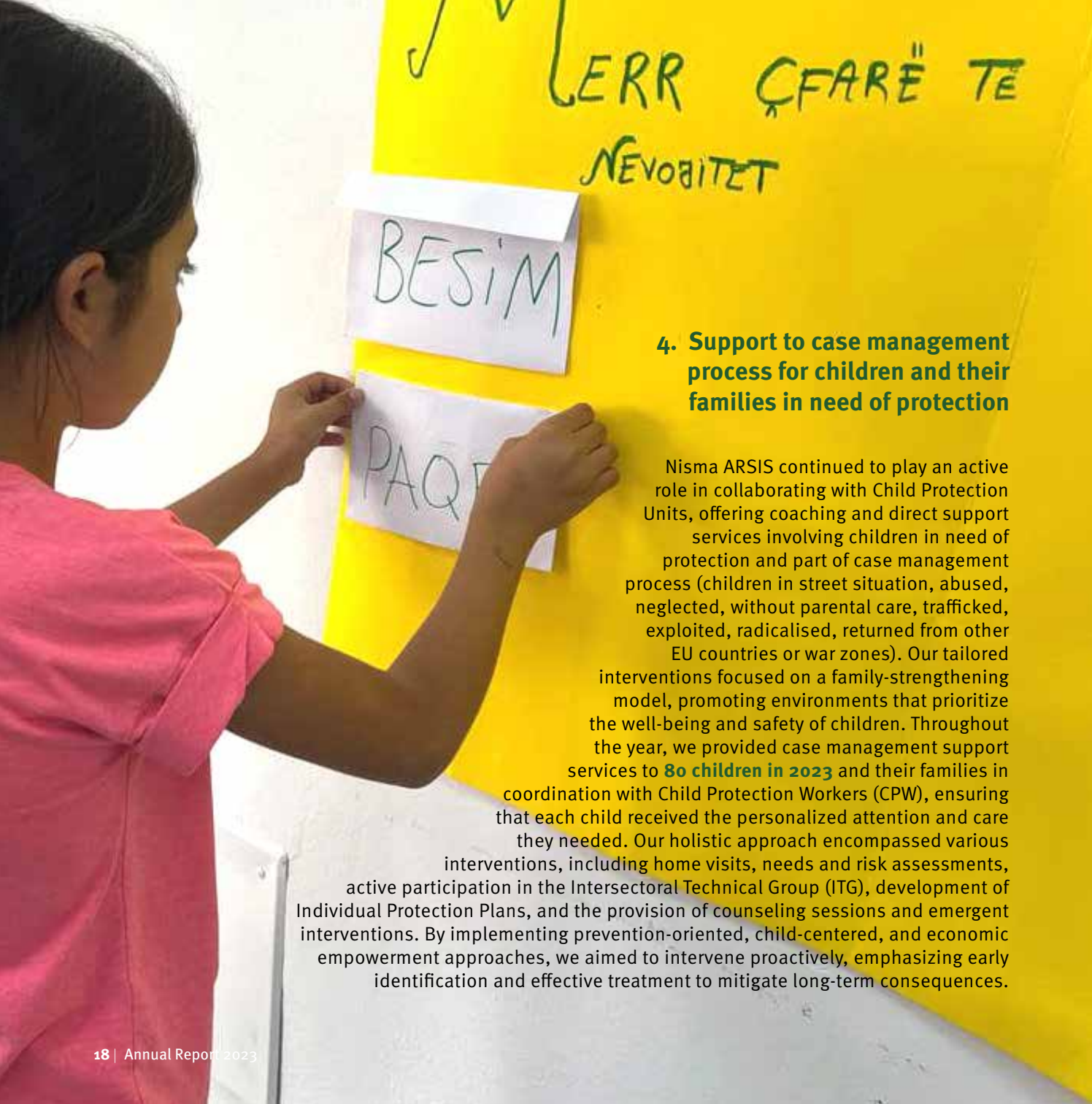
A success story of inclusion and support

In the diverse settings of police stations, minors can find themselves accompanying officers for various reasons and issues, some more prevalent than others. Among the less common cases, considering the Albanian context and culture, are those involving children who are part of the LGBTQ+ community and find themselves in police environments.

Nisma ARSIS’s team has assisted these children on several occasions, addressing both the fears they have due to prejudice and the way officers approach them. However, one recent and particularly delicate case was handled with utmost seriousness and professionalism by our team and the General Prosecutor’s Office for Minors (OPGJ). We created a safe and non-judgmental environment for the minor, ensuring confidentiality and building trust.

Upon completing the process at the police station, the child was encouraged to attend psychological counseling sessions, focusing on their psychosocial well-being. The child attended multiple counseling sessions at the multi-functional center “House of Colors,” where various issues and concerns troubling them were discussed and addressed. By the end of the sessions, the child gained a more positive self-image and improved coping skills for future challenges.

This success story illustrates that with dedication and awareness from responsible authorities, it is possible to create a better and fairer environment for all children, encouraging acceptance and respect for all identities and diversity within society.



4. Support to case management process for children and their families in need of protection

Nisma ARSIS continued to play an active role in collaborating with Child Protection Units, offering coaching and direct support services involving children in need of protection and part of case management process (children in street situation, abused, neglected, without parental care, trafficked, exploited, radicalised, returned from other EU countries or war zones). Our tailored interventions focused on a family-strengthening model, promoting environments that prioritize the well-being and safety of children. Throughout the year, we provided case management support services to **80 children in 2023** and their families in coordination with Child Protection Workers (CPW), ensuring that each child received the personalized attention and care they needed. Our holistic approach encompassed various interventions, including home visits, needs and risk assessments, active participation in the Intersectoral Technical Group (ITG), development of Individual Protection Plans, and the provision of counseling sessions and emergent interventions. By implementing prevention-oriented, child-centered, and economic empowerment approaches, we aimed to intervene proactively, emphasizing early identification and effective treatment to mitigate long-term consequences.

5. Implementing child protection responses in humanitarian emergencies

Since August 2021, Albania has become one of the hosted countries, with more than 6000 Afghan refugees resettled. Rafaelo Resort in Shengjin is the only place of Afghan refugee accommodation in Albania, with a current number of 743 individuals, of whom 388 are children. Nisma ARSIS has spearheaded psychosocial support services and the implementation of the Gender-Based Violence (GBV) and child protection reporting mechanism. Over the past two years, this intervention has been conducted in collaboration with UNICEF Albania, with a strong focus on providing psychosocial services, raising awareness, offering direct support for GBV and child protection, and strengthening the child protection system.



Child-Friendly Spaces, Mother and Baby Corners, and Women and Girls Friendly Spaces have been operational in informing and preventing GBV and child protection issues within the Afghan nationals' community, utilizing creative and innovative approaches to engage children, women, and girls. As part of this intervention,

- 4071** community members (both children and adults) have received psychosocial support, with over
- 55** community mediators involved. Additionally,
- 1508** children in vulnerable situations have been supported through culturally sensitive psychosocial activities, while
- 370** adults (women and men) have been informed and engaged in discussions about GBV and child protection. Furthermore, a **GBV and Child Protection Referral Pathway** has been established and shared with service providers, serving as a positive intervention model.



6. Advancing Family-Based Care: Nisma ARSIS's Commitment to De-Institutionalization in Albania

In 2023, Nisma ARSIS remained steadfast in its commitment to the deinstitutionalization process in Albania, focusing on facilitating the transition from residential childcare institutions to family-based care alternatives. Through our comprehensive approach, we conducted assessments and developed individualized care plans for **80 children** placed in public residential institutions. Collaborating closely with local actors, municipalities, and stakeholders, we actively participated in determining and implementing the transition process tailored to each child's needs. Our efforts extended to supporting family reunification processes for **13 children** and creating 2 child and family support hubs to safeguard vulnerable families and prevent child separation in Tirana and Durres Municipalities. Furthermore, Nisma ARSIS provided direct support services, including access to healthcare, education, and psychosocial support, while conducting capacity-building initiatives for **151 professionals** from statutory workers within alternative childcare services. Through these initiatives, we contributed to strengthening the capacity of state institutions and ensuring the rights and well-being of children were at the forefront of the de-institutionalization process.

Supporting children without parental care

The Elton family consists of six members: the head of the family his wife Jonida, his mother Yllka, and their three children, Arbi aged 5, Bajram aged 4, and Ani aged 1. They reside in a house owned by the Municipality of Durrës.

In November 2018, due to economic conditions and his mother's health, Elton decided to migrate as an asylum seeker to France (Calmar) with his wife and mother. During their stay in France, two children, Bajram and Ani, were born. However, due to the rejection of their stay in July 2022, the family returned to Albania. In September 2022, their son Ani was born. After returning to Albania, in December 2022, due to socio-economic and health problems, Elton's wife Jonida left the family home without any contact with him. In January 2023, Elton visited Health Center No.2 in Durrës due to health problems with his son Ani. During the visit, Elton expressed his concern to the nurse that he was unable to care for the children alone as he had to work and take care of the well-being of the children and his sick mother. The case was referred to the Department of Social Services at the Municipality of Durrës, where on February 24, 2023, a meeting of the Inter-Sectoral Technical Group was held. Based on the assessment of the case, it was decided to take emergency protective measures for the placement of Ani in the House of Infants in Durrës.

In July 2023, with the improvement of Jonida's health, she returned to the family. This return also contributed to the improvement of the family's socio-economic situation, as Jonida took care of the children and Elton's mother while Elton worked. During this time, the family was supported by the organization Nisma ARSIS with various forms of assistance tailored to the family's needs. Both parents showed interest in the welfare of the children. They also followed the parenting program "I'm here for you" offered by Nisma ARSIS and the psycho-social staff of the Durrës Child and Family Support Services. During these sessions, their parenting skills were reinforced, and they were equipped with stress coping techniques, information on positive parenting practices, and appropriate strategies to support their children. Periodic home visits were also conducted to inform the parents about parenting practices and skills.

STRENGTHENING FAMILIES, PROTECTING CHILDREN WITHOUT PARENTAL CARE

Referring to Article 18 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, member countries must provide parents with adequate support during the exercise of parental rights, as well as develop the necessary services for each case.

In cases where the parents are unable to provide the necessary care, the child has the right to be cared for by a substitute family. In this context, child abandonment and institutionalization should not be seen as an alternative, so the intervention for the establishment of empowering services for the child and the family is considered very necessary.

The piloting of support services for the child and the family in two new municipalities such as the Municipality of Tirana and Durrës is serving for establishing a model which has proved to be successful in the municipalities of Korça and Vlorë, ensuring the prevention of the separation of the child from the family, as well as supporting the reunification of children with biological families.

With the approval of the procedures for implementing the child and family support hub model by the Steering Committee, this model is being replicated in other Municipalities.

64

children in RCI in Tirana

22

children in RCI in Durrës

Community-Centric Support

5 community center in Tirana
5 community center in Durrës



The community centers provide the main package of services necessary for the support of the most vulnerable groups including children at risk of separation or without parental care. The primary objective is clear: to fortify families, prevent child-family separation, and facilitate reunification of children with their families.

A dedicated team of 36 professionals, including sector managers, psychologists, social workers, and teachers, are engaged in this mission. These professionals receive mentorship from Nisma ARSIS to ensure the effective provision of support services.

12

meetings in community center in Tirana

10

meetings in community center in Durrës

Collaboration for Impact

15 Administrative Units in Tirana
3 Administrative Units in Durrës



40 families
84 children

40 children in RCI and 36 children at risk of separation from their biological families



24 Child Protection Workers

This partnership aims to empower families through individualized development plans, direct support, and guidance toward available support services focusing on coordination and engagement of representatives of different sectors

cooperated closely with the professionals of Nisma ARSIS

Holistic Approach and Services

35 meetings of the Intersectoral Technical Group set up by Child Protection Workers in Tirana and Durrës

Guidance and support have been extended to three families navigating legal procedures to become foster families with blood ties.

46 family visits

Child and Family Support Hub

16 Individuals received Psychological Counseling

53 Individuals attended Parenting Program

3 children received specialised services

Building Collaborative Networks

This initiative has fostered cooperative relationships with all stakeholders involved in the process.

Regular attendance at Local Coordination Team meetings and 15 ICT sessions underscores the commitment to implementing the Best Interest of the Child.

As Nisma ARSIS continues to make strides through a combination of:

- community engagement,
- professional collaboration, and targeted services,

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Noteworthy achievements include the participation of

372 children

in informative sessions and

48 parents

in similar engagements

7. Online safety

The program aimed at providing cyber space for children and youth in 4 municipalities - Tirana, Elbasan, Kruja, and Durrës - has sparked considerable interest from collaborating structures and institutions. The Nisma ARSIS team's collaborative approach with various sector institutions has not only fostered cooperation but also heightened awareness around online trafficking and bullying phenomena. Over the initial 3-month period, the team devised tailored action plans for each municipality, actively engaging

with schools, community centers, and social services. Activities encompassed awareness-raising among public and community stakeholders, capacity building, and training service providers to identify at-risk children. This intervention has yielded positive outcomes across all municipalities, as evidenced by increased engagement from young people, children, and professionals. However, a notable challenge remains parental involvement due to their work commitments and varying levels of interest.



GOALS

The intervention is focused on fostering community – government relationships to forge an enabling environment for the de-radicalization of communities at risk of violent extremism through two mutually reinforcing specific objectives:

- Government structures at the central and local levels are equipped with practical tools for the re-integration of individuals and communities at risk of being radicalized.

Implement a systemic approach to the reintegration of individuals and families at risk of being radicalized into community life.

INTERVENTION APPROACH

"Re-integration of individuals and communities at risk of being radicalized enabling them to redirect their lives and become contributing members of their communities"

Communities of Tirana, Kashar, Kavaja, Cerrik, Kruje

The project will develop a specific module for case management of children belonging to radicalized families (who are resident in Albania or whose parents are classified as foreign terrorist fighters "FTFs" and expected to return to Albania) including long-term reintegration and rehabilitation.

WE ARE HERE TO HELP

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- Capacity building of the Inter-Sectorial Technical Group in 5 Municipalities.
- Coaching of the CPU/ITG members during case management.
- Provide resilience-building interventions for 10 families affected by the radicalization which may lead to violent extremism and families of foreign terrorist fighters (FTFs) and upon their return to Albania.
- Costing of the social reintegration support to children belonging to radicalized families.
- Nisma ARSIS will organize informative sessions with students in 4 schools in the country (4 sessions per school, in total 16 info sessions).

8. Re-integration of individuals and communities at risk of being radicalized enabling them to redirect their lives and become contributing members of their communities

In 2023, the intervention prioritized the cultivation of robust community-government partnerships aimed at creating an empowering atmosphere conducive to the deradicalization of vulnerable communities. This will be achieved in 2024 with the following interventions:

- Capacity building of the Inter-Sectorial Technical Group in 5 Municipalities.
- Coaching of the CPU/ITG members during case management.
- Provide resilience-building interventions for 10 families affected by the radicalization which may lead to violent extremism and families of foreign terrorist fighters (FTFs) and upon their return to Albania.
- Costing of the social reintegration support to children belonging to radicalized families.
- Nisma ARSIS will organize informative sessions with students in 4 schools in the country (4 sessions per school, in total 16 info sessions).

Child and youth participation

and guarantee of their rights and wellbeing
An essential aspect of safeguarding the rights of children and ensuring that policies, systems, and our own initiatives meet their needs is actively involving children in all stages—from discussions and design to implementation and advocacy. This inclusive approach has been a cornerstone of our work, highlighted in 2023. Additionally, Nisma ARSIS prioritizes the rights of youth in programing and We provide platforms for them to engage and contribute to international dialogues and processes.

1. Youth participation and engagement activities in 2023

House of Colors Center in Tirana

Nisma ARSIS engaged 65 young individuals aged between 15 and 23 from various schools across Tirana. These participants, residing in diverse areas of Tirana such as Kombinat, Yzberisht, Selita, Komuna e Parisit, Allias, Fresku, and Selvia, contributed to the group's rich diversity. The identification methodology involved meetings with school leaders, psychosocial staff from public high schools, informational sessions at the Faculty of Social Sciences, and online applications through Nisma-Arsis' website. These youth actively participated in psychosocial activities focused on children's rights, gender-based violence, and conveying important messages to promote and ensure the applicability of these rights. Weekly activities facilitated by dedicated professionals aimed at socially engaging youth, enhancing their quality leisure time, and fostering contributions to their community. Sessions covered a range of topics, including human rights conventions, child protection legislation, participation, equality, and human trafficking issues. Special informative sessions were conducted on occasions such as the International Children's Day and the World Day Against Child Labour, emphasizing child rights, abuse forms, and the necessary actions to reduce or eliminate child exploitation. Activities also included sessions on online safety, discussing the use of social networks, its advantages, drawbacks, and ways to safeguard privacy.



Enhancing child well-being through mental health awareness in partnership with Condivisione fra i popoli ONLUS funded by the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS)

Empowered youth, agents of change, and active participants of community initiatives with a social nature in the Municipality of Kamza program of ReLOaD funded by EU and implemented by UNDP,

Empowered children and youth become agents of change and active participants of community social initiatives in Tirana Municipality funded by Terre des hommes in Albania,

Summer camps in 9 Municipalities in Albania funded by World Vision Albania,

Democracy Workshops in Albania program in partnership with Albanian and Austrian Parliaments and funded by Erste Foundation,

Youth clubs in House of Colors

Empowering children and youth towards healthy choices, developing life skills towards overall well-being funded by AMSHC.

Contributing programs

Nisma ARSIS youth celebrate international children's rights day

In November, as part of International Children's Rights Day, the vibrant youth group of Nisma ARSIS showcased their talents and commitment to children's rights. The group organized art exhibitions at TUMO's premises in the iconic Pyramid building and actively participated in the rights stand set up by the MHSP. Their artworks, including paintings, crafts, and festive-themed tote bags, not only reflected their creativity but also their dedication to promoting children's rights. Further showcasing their advocacy spirit, several representatives from the high school group engaged in a meaningful dialogue with the Minister of Health and Social Protection. They voiced their concerns and needs in schools while gaining insightful information about their rights under the "National Agenda for Children's Rights."

Towards the end of November and into early December, these enthusiastic youngsters continued their artistic endeavors. They crafted beautiful art pieces, greeting cards, and festive-themed tote bags. These creations were then showcased and sold at a fair organized by OSAAB. The proceeds from these sales were directed towards supporting abandoned newborns at the "Queen Geraldine Maternity Hospital," underscoring the youth's compassion and commitment to making a positive impact in their community.





2. Local Action Plan for Youth developed in Municipality of Kamza

Municipality of Kamza and Nisma ARSIS designed a comprehensive platform promoting social, health, and youth inclusion development in Kamëz. They actively engaged youth in decision-making and socio-economic development within the municipality. Key activities included administering a needs and challenges in their communities questionnaire to 608 young residents of Kamëz, analyzing the data to produce a comprehensive report, and conducting informative sessions and advocacy workshops with youth representatives from 23 primary and secondary schools in Kamëz. This initiative culminated in the drafting of the “**Local Action Plan for Youth 2024-2027**,” which serves as a strategic guide for youth-related policies and activities, fostering a socially active, healthy, cultured, and participative youth in Kamëz.



The project’s impact was significant, with youth aged 14-25 actively participating across various project activities, from informative sessions and focus groups to consultation and summer leadership camps. This inclusive approach bridged socio-economic gaps and empowered youth to advocate for their rights. A notable outcome was the creation of a collaborative network between Nisma ARSIS and 23 public schools in Kamëz.

3. Democracy Workshops in Albania

The “Democracy Workshop programme, which was originally established and is being implemented by the Austrian Parliament since 2007 implemented by Nisma ARSIS from December 2022 until the end of June 2024, aims to encourage interest among children and young people in politics and democratic processes and to familiarize them with the work of both parliament and MPs. The “Democracy Workshop” represents an educational programme which, in addition to learning about the basic principles of democracy and parliamentary processes, strives to foster two other preconditions for political participation: articulation of one’s opinion and media competence in all its aspects.



At least **2000 children** actively participated in the “Punishtja e Demokracisë” and “Democracy Workshops”.

A total of at least **100 newspapers** were produced and delivered to children through both initiatives.

Four trainers were selected, trained, capacitated, and actively worked with children across both projects.

At least **44 schools** from Tirana, Durrës, Cërrik, and Elbasan, **3 NGOs**, and **3 local community centres** engaged in the workshop activities.

A total of at least **135 staff members** were actively involved in the “Punishtja e Demokracisë”/“Democracy Workshops”.

Approximately **27,484 people** were reached through at least **35 Facebook and Instagram posts** dedicated to both projects.



4. Empowering youth for a diverse and inclusive approach



In 2023, the project actively engaged and empowered **297 youth aged 6-25**, fostering a diverse and inclusive community. This initiative significantly contributed to enhancing creativity, innovation, empathy, and social cohesion across various life aspects. Through the implementation of 5 community initiatives, it played a pivotal role in establishing a more equitable and inclusive society, offering opportunities for all to thrive.

Youth participants were immersed in understanding community needs and challenges, transforming them into change-makers through social initiatives. They attended 20 informative sessions that illuminated the importance of community engagement, volunteering, and fostering relationships, thereby raising awareness about positive community impact. Nisma Arsis provided a secure environment for these youths, offering psycho-social activities that nurtured empathy and reinforced social cohesion.

This experience not only facilitated the formation of new friendships and heightened awareness of social issues but also equipped the youth with enhanced capabilities to drive change in their communities. Importantly, engaging youths from diverse socio-economic backgrounds fostered open-mindedness, cultivating acceptance of societal diversity and cultural differences.

5. Well-being Together Project

The “Well-being Together” project, implemented by Nisma ARSIS in partnership with Community Association Papa Giovanni XIII in Tirana in 2023, focused on occupational therapy, work inclusion, and independent living for individuals with mental and psychosocial distress. The project targeted children aged 6-18 and achieved significant milestones in promoting mental health awareness.

During the reporting period, the Nisma ARSIS successfully built collaborative relationships with community centers and schools in the municipality of Tirana. The initiative not only educated children on mental health but also promoted empathy, inclusiveness, and self-awareness. The team prioritized creating a safe and engaging environment, combining theoretical and practical information to enhance children’s understanding of mental health.

Through **44 information sessions** across six community centers and five schools, the project reached a total of **810 beneficiaries, including 414 girls and 396 boys**.

These sessions covered a wide range of topics from mental health, emotions, and stress management to empathy, bullying, and gender equality. The initiative also involved professionals from various disciplines to foster a holistic and multidisciplinary approach to mental health.

6. Summer camps in Albania

In 2023, Nisma ARSIS successfully implemented summer camps targeting children and youth returned from migration or belonging to families affected by migration. These camps served as a platform for 315 children across various regions, including Tiranë, Kurbin, Korçë, Prenjas, Belsh, Cërrik, Kamëz, Vlorë, and Dibër. The camps focused on promoting social integration, fostering healthy relationships, and encouraging active lifestyles through sports and other activities.



Children and youth aged 6-18 developed coping mechanisms for challenging situations, enhancing self-esteem, self-confidence, and fostering hopefulness and optimism.

Participants acquired organizational, managerial, and leadership skills while also gaining awareness of gender stereotypes and strategies to combat them.

The camps emphasized values of solidarity, diversity, and cultural understanding. Children and youth learned to build connections across different societal groups, promoting mutual understanding and dialogue.



Education

in terms of literacy and numeracy, as well as foundational, vocational, and life skills

Expanding Roma and Egyptian children/ students' access to quality and inclusive education in Tirana

Municipality program in partnership with OSFA funded by EU,

Ensuring access to education in Lanabregas, Tirana Municipality

Mobile School

Contributing programs

1. Empowering Roma and Egyptian children through inclusive education

In 2023, Nisma ARSIS enhanced the educational landscape for Roma and Egyptian children in Tirana Municipality. Through the project titled "Expanding Roma and Egyptian children/ students' access to quality and inclusive education and Educational Achievements," – EDUJobs introduced inclusive education models to three public schools: "Androkli Kostallari," "Gjon Buzuku," and "Yzberisht." These models aimed to improve online education access for Roma and Egyptian students, targeting the prevention of school dropout and functional illiteracy.



Key achievements:

- A total of **256** children participated in activities held at three public schools, focusing on enhancing their digital learning skills and providing afterschool support.
- **52** teachers were trained and mentored, equipping them with innovative blended teaching methods.
- **55** students received mentoring on innovative methods of utilizing technology labs to develop various tasks, fostering their digital skills.
- **248** parents (65 fathers and 183 mothers) have participated to awareness sessions for positive parenting and know-how approaches to support blended education for their children at school environment.
- IT support was provided in the three schools where technological devices were installed, ensuring seamless integration of technology into the learning process.

The interventions implemented in these schools focused on supporting compulsory education for Roma and Egyptian children. This was achieved through enhancing the ICT infrastructure and introducing new approaches to blended learning.



2. Ensuring access to education in Lanabregas, Tirana Municipality



In 2023, Nisma ARSIS continued its commitment to enhancing access to education for the children of the Lanabregas community near Administrative Unit No. 1 in Tirana. Through its safe transport service, Nisma ARSIS ensured daily transportation for **21 children** throughout the school year, facilitating their regular attendance at school in collaboration with “Androkli Kostallari” School and monitor the children drop-out.

The school environment was recognized as supportive and stimulating, nurturing not only academic growth but also fostering social and emotional well-being in every child.

The school-based support activity for these children resumed in September, yielding highly satisfactory academic results and instilling a sense of active participation within the classroom environment. This success was a testament to the continuous and dedicated collaboration between the school, the Nisma ARSIS team, and the families of this community.

The participation of parents in organized meetings, in partnership with the school, opened new opportunities for every child reaching school age. They received all necessary facilities and proper support from the school’s leadership and teaching staff.



3. Mobile School

The Mobile School is an educational tool that provides non-formal education to children who have little or no access to education. During 2023, the Nisma ARSIS psychosocial team has been organizing the Mobile School activities in 5 different suburban areas in Tirana Municipality, particularly in rural areas or in communities with families with socio-economic problems, or communities of Roma and Egyptian peoples. The communities that the Mobile school has reached are the areas of Yzberish, Selitë, “Gonxhe Bojaxhiu” Center in Bregu i Lumit, Shkoza Multifunctional Center and “House of Colors” Daily Centre of Nisma-Arsis. The participants reached during the sessions with the mobile school **were 303 children, 167 of them girls, and 136 boys**, part of the target groups as: Children in street situations, Children working, and Children dropping out of school. An important topic organized in these activities was the importance of school attendance, specifically the advantages of attending school and the many disadvantages that a child may experience in the future as a result

of dropping out of school. Also, part of the mobile school was the informative and awareness-raising activities for violence, abuse, trafficking, working children, and recidivist juveniles, for the purpose of information, awareness, and psychosocial support. In the families living in the disadvantaged communities in the city, education is not a priority, but surviving day by day comes first. Children are often not able to go to school, either because their families can not support them or because they are involved in providing for the family. Thus, many children living there have little or no education at all. The Mobile School is an educational tool that allows educational activities to be organized directly in the community. It’s a box on four wheels, with expandable tables on which we can attach different boards on topics such as literacy, mathematics, health education, emotions, and creative therapy. Children living in disadvantaged communities have the chance to develop their skills and raise their self-esteem so that they can later go (back) to school.



Social and economic wellbeing

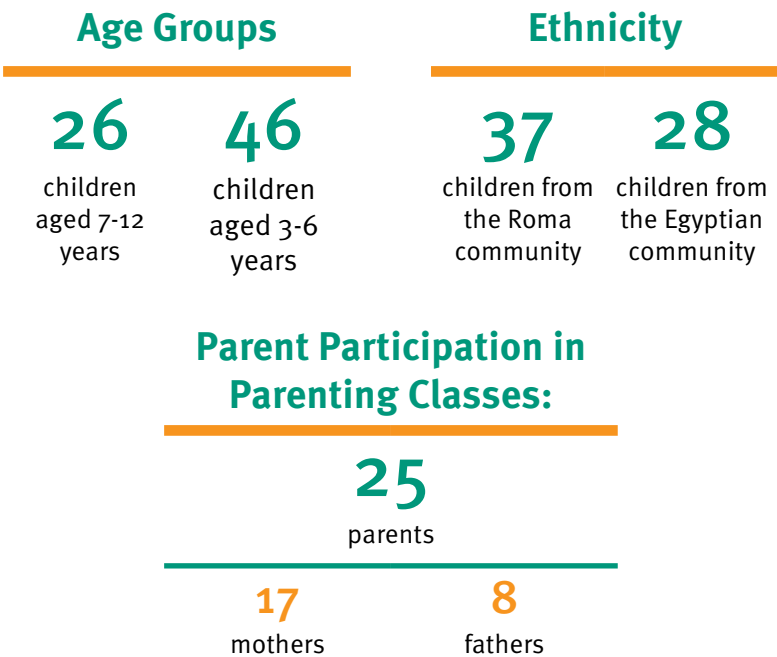
- Ensuring access to justice and free legal aid services for individuals in vulnerable situations located in rural areas in the Municipality of Tirana, in partnership with UNDP Albania and funded by Austrian Development Cooperation,
- Re-integration of individuals and communities at risk of being radicalized enabling them to redirect their lives and become contributing members of their communities funded by US Embassy in Tirana,
- Empower vulnerable communities by enhancing prevention work at local level, strengthening local networking, expanding knowledge on human rights, and advocating for inclusive representation at local level governance processes in partnership with UNDP Albania funded by USAID,
- Improving access and (re) integration in education, employment and social services of Returned Migrant children, youth and families in partnership with Terre des hommes and funded by GIZ.

Contributing program

engaging vulnerable communities, ensuring access to justice, reintegration and resocialization services, economic empowerment

1. Empowering early interventions and family strengthening in 2023

In its fifth year of operation, Nisma ARSIS continued to provide comprehensive multidisciplinary services for children and families, focusing on early interventions and empowerment. Throughout the year 2023, **72 (32 boys and 40 girls)** preschool-aged children identified by our community outreach team have engaged in playful learning sessions. These interactive sessions have enhanced their social, emotional, and cognitive development. Play remains a vital mechanism that invigorates children’s lives, allowing parents to witness developmental changes in language skills, motor abilities, peer interactions, and emotional states. The progress in education not only prepares children for school but also enlightens parents and educators about each child’s remarkable achievements.



Holistic interventions have shown a significant impact on children’s progress, particularly in fostering independent living skills, self-esteem, and self-development. Our journey towards inclusivity and providing equal opportunities for every child in the preschool and early school system has been one of the center’s notable accomplishments. Apart from

engaging children in integrated activities, our team has continuously supported parents, strengthening their current parenting capacities for a more positive upbringing. The focus of these integrated interventions is family empowerment and rebuilding a nourishing family environment, emphasizing the importance of early childhood education.

Anisa - A journey of hope with Nisma ARSIS

Anisa, a single mother from the Roma community, faced immense challenges in providing for her two children, Arben and Elira. With limited resources and access to educational support, Anisa was worried about her children’s future.

The turning point:

Anisa’s life took a positive turn when she learned about Nisma ARSIS, a center offering comprehensive support for children and families in need. She decided to enroll her children in the center’s programs and benefiting from some of the services. Anisa and her children received hygiene and food packages, easing their daily struggles and ensuring Arben and Elira had nutritious meals. Arben, a lively 5-year-old, participated in the preschool activities, and learned through play, developing his sensory-motor, linguistic, cognitive, and emotional skills. Anisa attended parenting workshops at the center, gaining valuable insights into child upbringing and family well-being. She felt supported and empowered to provide a nurturing environment for her children. Arben, having faced challenges adjusting to new environments, received specialized

psycho-social support. Through tailored counseling, he learned to express his emotions. Anisa and her children actively participated in community activities organized by Nisma ARSIS. They felt a sense of belonging, fostering their integration into diverse cultural and artistic environments.

The Impact:

Arben blossomed into a confident and enthusiastic child, eager to learn and explore. Anisa felt empowered and capable of providing a better life for her children, breaking the cycle of poverty and despair. The family’s overall well-being improved, strengthening their resilience and hope for a better family situation.

2. Empowering returnees and beneficiaries through psychological support and economic empowerment

During the period from December 13, 2022, to May 31, 2023, Nisma ARSIS successfully implemented a project focused on providing consultancy and support to returnees and former beneficiaries facing challenging situations. The initiative aimed to facilitate their reintegration into society through economic empowerment and psychosocial programs.

Reintegration and empowerment - A total of **486 individuals** were counseled and informed by the team upon their return to Albania about the opportunities available for reintegration and participation in economic and psychosocial empowerment programs. This proactive approach ensured that returnees received the necessary guidance and support to rebuild their lives and reintegrate into society successfully.

Informative sessions and psychosocial support - **In 17 municipalities, 271 participants** attended informative sessions, gaining insights into the available programs and opportunities for reintegration. Furthermore, **171 individuals** benefited from the psychological services offered by NISMA ARSIS, aiming to enhance mental well-being and develop resilient skills.

Economic empowerment - Nisma ARSIS supported **90 families** in creating income-generating activities, improving family conditions, and promoting sustainable financial resources. The team's efforts focused on fostering economic stability and encouraging self-reliance, aiming to uplift the living standards of the identified families across the 17 municipalities.

Individuals with migration histories or at risk of migrating to European countries as asylum seekers were assisted by the team. They received necessary guidance to explore suitable alternatives based on their needs, ensuring informed decision-making regarding their migration choices.

3. Ensuring access to justice and free legal aid services

In 2023, our project embarked on a journey to champion access to justice and equal rights, particularly for those often sidelined in our communities. With a firm commitment to empowerment, we set out to make legal support more accessible, especially for women and girls grappling with socio-economic hardships in rural areas. Our efforts were multifaceted. We provided legal counseling and disseminated crucial information about legal pathways. Our mobile legal aid services traversed six locations, reaching over 300 individuals in need. But our impact wasn't just about numbers; it was about the stories of those we assisted. From empowering individuals to navigate complex legal processes to offering a beacon of hope for those facing injustice, our work resonated deeply with the communities we served.

Through workshops and initiatives, we addressed systemic barriers, striving to create a more just society for all. And our results speak volumes: 349 individuals informed, 15 accessing legal aid, and 93 benefiting from counseling. With every referral made and every case managed, we reinforced our commitment to ensuring that no one is left behind in the pursuit of justice.

4. Multidisciplinary center “House of Colors”, Tirana Municipality



In 2023, the “House of Colors” center continued its dedication to providing comprehensive support to vulnerable children, youth, and families. Our multidisciplinary team, comprised of social workers, psychologists, caregivers, nurses, teachers, case managers, and child protection workers, worked tirelessly to address the diverse needs of those we serve. Through our child and family support hub model, we aimed to create a nurturing



environment where every child and family member can thrive.

We provided **257 children** with basic necessities such as food and hygiene items, ensuring their immediate well-being. Moreover, our psychological counseling sessions and psychosocial games supported children in processing trauma and developing vital coping mechanisms. Additionally, our non-formal education initiatives empowered **65 youth** to learn and develop essential skills in a supportive environment.



Furthermore, our center offered crucial administrative and legal support to assist families in navigating bureaucratic processes and accessing entitlements and services. Through community development initiatives and family strengthening programs, we fostered social networks and promoted positive family dynamics, benefiting **105 families**. Moreover, **54 youth and adults** received counseling for employment opportunities, empowering them to secure sustainable livelihoods. Additionally, our comprehensive case management services provided personalized support and advocacy for each child and family, ensuring their needs were met effectively.

In line with our commitment to child rights, we conducted targeted awareness campaigns and advocacy efforts throughout the year. These initiatives aimed to raise awareness about the rights of children, mobilize support for their fulfillment, and advocate for policy changes to safeguard their rights and interests.



5. Multifunctional community center in Rrashbull, Durres Municipality

In the period from December 2020 to June 2023, Nisma ARSIS successfully implemented the project “Sustainable Socio-Economic Reintegration of Returned Migrants to Albania,” funded by GLZ, in partnership with Terre Des Hommes and the Municipality of Durrës. The project was centered at the Multifunctional Community Center in Rrashbull, with a primary focus on reintegrating migrant families returning from insecure migration or those at risk of insecure migration.

Since the inception of the project, a total of 116 families have been identified, comprising 82 families returned from insecure migration from countries such as Germany, Greece, and France, while the remaining 34 families are considered at risk of insecure migration. Currently, these families are actively engaged in project activities facilitated by GLZ. Among them, 48 families are undergoing case management and receiving tailored support according to their needs. Direct assistance has primarily included registration fees for childcare, monthly childcare support, additional support for children, food packages, hygiene kits, and basic household appliances such as stoves, refrigerators, and washing machines.

These families reside in areas within the administrative unit of Rrashbull (Xhafzotaj), areas within the administrative unit of Sukth, as well as in the city of Durrës. Throughout 2023, our efforts have been focused on providing comprehensive support to these families, ensuring their successful reintegration into the community and facilitating their transition towards sustainable socio-economic stability.



Advocacy

URAT Network



Nisma ARSIS is a member of the URAT Network (United Response Against Trafficking) and lead for 2023 the network reaching:

URAT forged strong partnerships, uniting governmental agencies, NGOs, and international partners to bolster the collective response to human trafficking.

Through targeted interventions and awareness campaigns, URAT worked to empower communities, mitigating factors that make individuals susceptible to trafficking

URAT advocated for victim-centered approaches and ensured access to comprehensive support services, strengthening the legal and institutional framework for combating human trafficking and protecting survivors' rights.

Nisma ARSIS's presence in networks

In 2023, Nisma ARSIS continued its steadfast commitment to advocacy efforts within various networks and engagements, amplifying voices and championing the rights of vulnerable populations. Through strategic partnerships and active participation in local, national, and international forums, our organization tirelessly advocated for policy changes and initiatives that promote social justice and uphold human rights.



European Playwork Association

In 2023 we were invited by our partner organisation **European playwork association** hosted by “Prisms” for an International Seminar in Malta. The topic of the seminar was “Migration – challenges and opportunities for international youth work”. Together with 31 Youth Workers from 17 European communities and within a full program of workshops, the participants explored our educational toolkit “All Children, all Right(s)”. With this activity, the participants experienced with empathy the needs and situation of migrant Children and learned more about Children’s and Youth Rights playfully. We talked about the way youth workers need to and can support children and young people on their journey, make them aware of their Rights and fight, so their Rights are respected.

In addition to our direct advocacy activities, Nisma ARSIS also utilized various communication channels, including social media platforms and traditional media outlets, to disseminate key messages and mobilize support for our advocacy priorities. Through these channels, we reached a wide audience, sparking meaningful conversations and inspiring action towards positive social change.



PICUM
For undocumented migrants,
for social justice.

Platform for International Cooperation on Undocumented Migrants - PICUM

In 2023, Nisma ARSIS actively participated in and contributed to the General Assembly organized by the Platform for International Cooperation on Undocumented Migrants (PICUM). As part of the working group, we addressed concerns related to undocumented children, youth, and families in need of continuous support from all existing institutions at every level. We emphasized the importance of community integration and collaboration among member and non-member states of the European Union in supporting undocumented migrants. Our involvement in this assembly facilitated meaningful discussions and highlighted the urgent need for comprehensive support systems for undocumented individuals and families. Through our contributions, we advocated for inclusive policies and initiatives to empower and protect this vulnerable population, promoting a more compassionate and inclusive approach to migration governance.



National referral Mechanism on Antitrafficking

In 2023, we celebrate the achievement of the Ministry of Interior and the members of the National Referral Mechanism for Potential and Victims of Trafficking (NRM) in Albania. Their collaborative efforts culminated in the finalization and signing of a new Co-operation Agreement aimed at identifying and assisting trafficking victims. This milestone agreement demonstrates a proactive approach to combatting human trafficking by addressing both existing and emerging forms of exploitation. Notably, the new Agreement stands out for its inclusivity, as it involves all relevant institutions and, for the first time, incorporates the advisory board of trafficking victims through shelters dedicated to victims of trafficking in human beings. Our network

had the privilege of supporting the Ministry of Interior throughout this process, and we remain committed to continuing our assistance to the members of the National Referral Mechanism as they work towards the full implementation of this groundbreaking agreement. Together, we are strengthening efforts to protect and support victims of trafficking, fostering a safer and more just society for all.

In our 2023 report, we extend heartfelt recognition to the dedicated efforts of all partner organizations involved in our collective mission. It is through their unwavering commitment, tireless advocacy, and collaborative spirit that we have been able to make significant strides in addressing pressing social

issues and advancing our shared goals. From mobilizing communities and raising awareness to implementing innovative solutions and advocating for policy changes, Nisma ARSIS has played an important role in creating positive change and improving the lives of those we serve. As we reflect on the achievements of the past year, we express our sincere gratitude to our partners for their invaluable contributions and unwavering support. Together, we are making a meaningful difference in the world.



Recognition price from the Municipality of Tirana in the end of year 2023



Nisma ARSIS has been honored with a recognition price from the Municipality of Tirana at the end of 2023. The Municipality of Tirana's recognition highlights our significant contributions across various social domains. Our efforts have spanned numerous projects aimed at improving the lives of vulnerable populations, advocating for social justice, and fostering an inclusive and supportive environment for all residents of Tirana.

Inspire Award 2023

Nisma ARSIS has been selected for Inspire Award 2023 for Partnerships and Inclusion, an initiative led by UNICEF Albania with the support of Smile.al. This award celebrates the remarkable efforts of various organizations across Albania dedicated to bringing positive change to children's lives. It also creates a unique platform for sharing best practices and successful models while promoting partnerships, innovation, and sustainability. The Inspire Awards highlight the importance of collaboration and innovative approaches in improving the lives of children. Nisma ARSIS is honored to be recognized among those who tirelessly work to ensure the well-being and development of children in Albania. Nisma ARSIS sees this recognition as an incredible opportunity to further our mission of connecting people and ideas to benefit every child in Albania. The Inspire Awards aim to promote impactful projects that make a real difference in the lives of children, and we are excited to contribute to this vision. Our "House of Colors" program has been selected as one of the exemplary services supporting at-risk children and providing essential resocialization services in Albania. This recognition underscores the importance of our work in the child protection system, emphasizing our commitment to partnership and inclusivity.

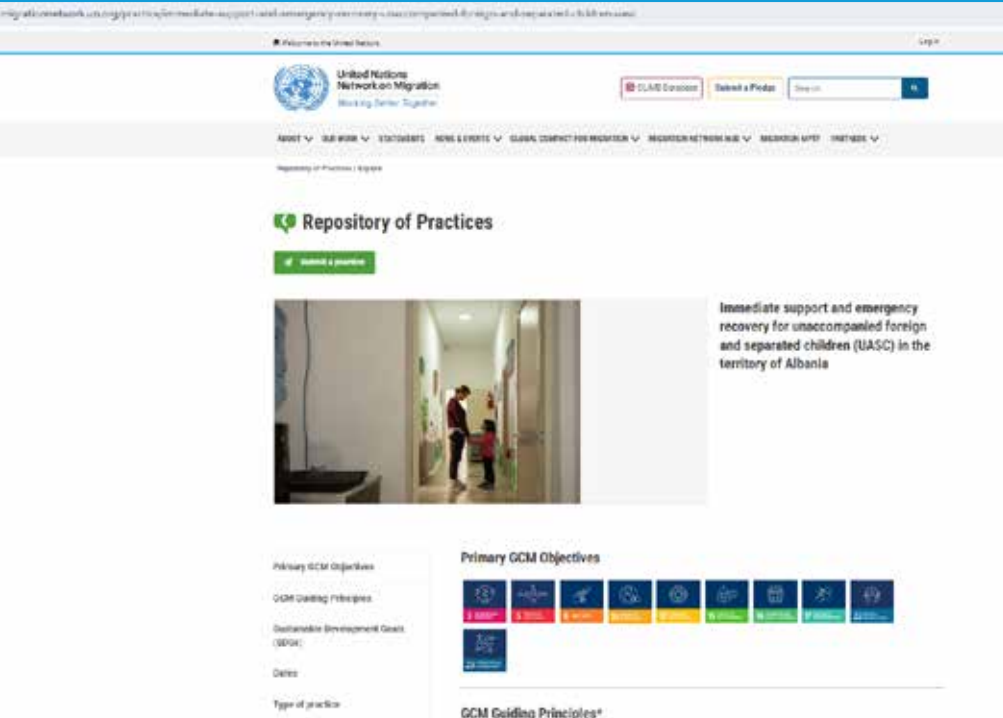


Immediate support and emergency recovery for unaccompanied foreign and separated children (UASC) in the territory of Albania



The GCM is the first-ever intergovernmentally negotiated UN agreement on a common approach to managing international migration. The GCM defines 23 objectives covering all aspects of migration (“360-degree” approach) with an array of possible actions, drawn from best practice, that States may choose to utilise to implement their national migration policies. While not legally binding, the GCM’s guiding principles, objectives and actions find their root in established obligations and principles, underpinned by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and international law.

GCM platform collect practices from governments, civil society, international organizations, and other stakeholders to gain insight into their experiences implementing the Global Compact’s objectives and guiding principles. Nisma ARSIS is being presented with one of its practices “Immediate support and emergency recovery for unaccompanied foreign and separated children (UASC) in the territory of Albania” that it can be followed in the link as follows: <https://migrationnetwork.un.org/practice/immediate-support-and-emergency-recovery-unaccompanied-foreign-and-separated-children-uasc>



Volunteer service

Know our internal volunteer Doro

Doro, a 22-year-old from Germany, embarked on a transformative journey with the organization Nisma ARSIS in Tirana, Albania. After studying Fine Arts for a year, Doro felt a strong desire to engage more deeply in social work and connect with diverse individuals. Seeking to break out of her bubble and immerse herself in a new culture, she chose to volunteer for a year abroad. Drawn to the Balkans, particularly Albania, she discovered the German organization Schuler Helfen Leben, which led her to Nisma ARSIS. With a mix of excitement and determination, Doro arrived in Albania, eager to contribute and learn.

Eight months into her service, Doro’s experience at Nisma ARSIS has been profoundly enriching. Working primarily at the day-care center for young children, she gained invaluable insights into supporting kids from challenging backgrounds. Through her involvement in teaching social skills, communication, reading, writing, and arithmetic, Doro witnessed firsthand the critical role Nisma ARSIS plays in preparing these children for future societal participation. Despite the challenges, her dedication was fueled by the importance of Nisma ARSIS’s mission in creating equal opportunities for all. Additionally, Doro spearheaded an Art Club at the public school ‘Androkoli Kostallari,’ where she crafted lessons and facilitated a creative space for the children, discovering the joy of nurturing their inherent creativity. This experience solidified her decision to pursue a career in Art Pedagogy/Art Therapy, affirming her passion for combining art and social work.

Messages on voluntarism

Voluntarism is a powerful force that fosters personal growth, cultural exchange, and community development. Organizations like Nisma ARSIS provide essential platforms for volunteers to make meaningful contributions while gaining invaluable life experiences. Through their dedication, volunteers can help bridge gaps in education, social skills, and creativity, empowering individuals from all backgrounds to achieve their potential. Nisma ARSIS exemplifies the profound impact of voluntary service by creating spaces where children from difficult circumstances can thrive, learn, and envision brighter futures. Supporting and participating in such initiatives, we can collectively work towards a more inclusive and equitable society, ensuring that everyone, regardless of their background, has the opportunity to succeed.

Overview
of the beneficiaries

In 2023, Nisma ARSIS deepened its impact across Albania, focusing on vulnerable children and families in need of urgent support. We provided safe havens through community services and emergency shelters, addressing issues such as abuse, violence, and trafficking. Our efforts extended nationwide, fostering strong partnerships with a wide range of organizations and institutions to deliver comprehensive care and support. Establishing child and family support hubs, we ensured that immediate emergency responses and long-term reintegration and rehabilitation services were accessible to those most in need. Our work empowered children and families, engaged youth in positive community roles, and strengthened professional networks to create a sustainable, protective environment for all beneficiaries.



Financial reports
2023

1,320,545

Operational expenses

1,338,075

Total Operational Revenue

1,289,133
48,942

Foundation Grants 96%
Government Grants 4%

289,336

Total Assets

1,060
231,379
56,897

Receivables
Cash and bank
Tangible fixed assets

289,336

Liabilities and Net Assets

29,088
241,045
19,203

Payables
Retained Net Assets
Surplus of Income over Ex-
penditure



Senior Management Team

- Ana Majko, *Executive Director*
- Greta Hodo, *Finance Manager*
- Julinda Vokopola, *Program Manager on Child Protection*
- Denita Mancellari, *Program Manager on Education and Development*
- Fjorina Hoxha, *Program Manager of Emergency Services*

Our amazing professionals

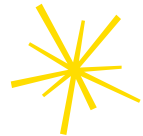
Albana Kumanaku - *Coordinator*
Albana Troshani – *Coordinator*
Alma Jella – *Case Manager*
Altea Xhaferaj – *Finance Officer*
Amarildo Hoxha – *Driver/Logist*
Anisa Shpati – *Teacher*
Arli Capo – *Social Worker*
Brikena Lasku – *Social Worker*
Denita Mancellari – *Program Manager*
Edlira Zdralla - *Psychologist*
Elda Ndoja – *Youth Worker*
Enxhi Gega – *Coordinator*
Entela Gjinaj – *Psychologist*
Entela Hida - *Teacher*
Ermelind Malko – *Social Worker*
Ethem Jace – *Social Worker*
Fjorina Hoxha – *Program Manager*
Flutra Rranxi – *Psychologist*
Greta Hodo – *Administrator/Finance Manager*

Ilirjan Karaj – *Driver/Logist*
Indrit Preza – *Social Worker*
Inva Shimi – *Social Worker*
Jola Celmeta – *Psychologist*
Julinda Vokopola – *Program Manager*
Kejsi Kasemi – *Psychologist*
Klea Marku - *Psychologist*
Kristina Kadena – *Finance Assistant*
Elona Doko – *Cooking Lady*
Nazmie Sinani – *Nurse*
Rrezearta Hoxha – *Social Worker*
Sibora Avdyli – *Psychotherapist*
Sidorela Lasku - *Psychologist*
Silva Mhilli – *Nurse*
Tauland Sadiku – *Driver*
Tedi Jaho – *Psychologist*
Xhesjana Lazaj - *Psychologist*
Xhevahire Hoxha – *Cooking Lady*



Donors and Partners 2023

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our donors, dedicated partners, and unwavering supporters. Your commitment and contributions have been very important in advancing our mission to protect and uphold the rights of children everywhere.



1. Ministry of Health and Social Protection
2. Ministry of Interior
3. Ministry of State for Youth and Children
4. State Agency for the Rights and Protection of the Child
5. Municipalities of Tirana
6. Municipality of Kamza
7. Municipality of Korça
8. Municipality of Vlora
9. Municipality of Durres
10. Municipality of Kurbin
11. Municipality of Lezha
12. Municipality of Shengjin
13. Municipality of Elbasan
14. Municipality of Kruja
15. Municipality of Kavaja
16. Municipality of Rrogozhina
17. Municipality of Cërrik
18. Municipality of Peqin
19. Municipality of Malesi e Madhe
20. Municipality of Fush Kruje
21. Municipality of Kukes
22. Municipality of Burrel
23. Municipality of Bulqize
24. Municipality of Lushnje
25. Municipality of Pogradec
26. Municipality of Përrenjas
27. Municipality of Diber
28. Municipality of Belsh
29. General Directory of Police
30. State Social Services
31. ARSIS Association for the Social Support of Youth in Greece
32. Arbeiter Samariter Bund South East Europe
33. Center for Crime Prevention and Case Management
34. Medaille Trust
35. National Association Education for Life
36. Albanian Helsinki Committee
37. Foundation "Spirit of Love Diakonia Agapes
38. University of New York Tirana
39. Universiteti Marin Barleti
40. Urat Network
41. Food Bank Albania
42. Aleanca Pro LGBTI+
43. STREHA
44. Qendra për Advokim Social
45. Agjencia e Administrimit të Pasurive të Sekuestruara dhe Konfiskuara

How you can support Nisma ARSIS:

Advocate

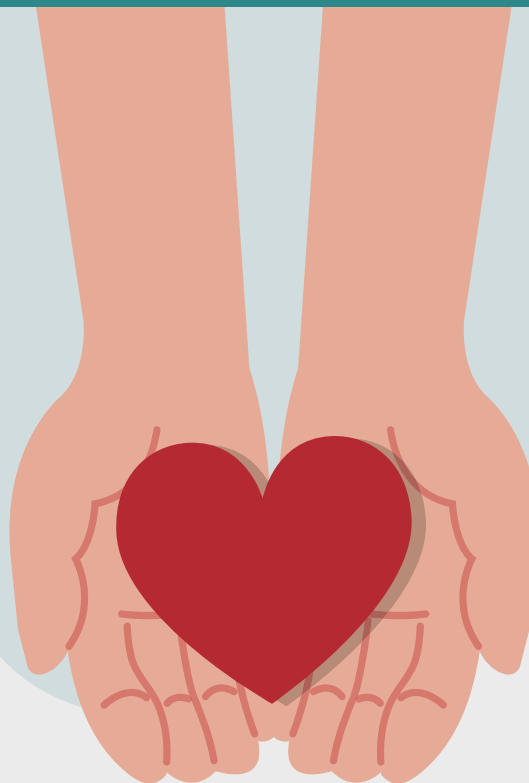
Join the Nisma ARSIS efforts to raise awareness about children's rights and report cases of violence and all forms of abuse.

Volunteer

Volunteers help our children and their families and communities to strengthen their positions and improve their lives.

Donate

Contribute financially to extend our support to children, youth and families in need.



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Instagram: Nisma ARSIS

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