



**Udruženje građana PLANT**  
[www.nvoplant.rs](http://www.nvoplant.rs)

**Association of citizens PLANT**

**ANNUAL REPORT**  
**ON THE WORK OF THE ASSOCIATION**

**2016.**



## ABOUT THE ASSOCIATION

**Association of Citizens “Plant”** is a non-governmental, non-partisan and non-profit organization, established on March 23<sup>rd</sup> 2005 in Niš in order to achieve the goals in the field of environmental protection, improvement of democratic processes, human rights protection and the development and improvement of the civil society.

The mission of “Plant” is a development and advancement of civil society through education, seminars, symposiums, lectures and panel discussions relating to the promotion of sustainable development, environmental protection and protection of human rights.

“Plant” has a broad field of interest and is permanently engaged in a number of diverse activities. Therefore, we gather a large number of recognized experts/professionals from various fields of expertise who are engaged as implementers or facilitators at the accepted projects. Those experts set the goals and accomplish specific tasks successfully at the highest of proficiency.

At 27.11.2014 Plant was registered as Association for youth in Ministry of youth and sport of Republic of Serbia, and registered in its list as No. 895.

### **Objectives of Association are:**

- improvement of environmental protection, public advocacy, education of citizens, especially children and the youth on the significance of maintaining and the improvement of energy efficiency,
- development and improvement of democratic processes, human rights protection, sensitizing society for the inclusion of marginalized groups and gender equality advocacy,
- improvement of the status of youth and their inclusion in the process of decision-making, formal and nonformal education and the development and improvement of the society.
- improvement of local economic development through raising public awareness and connection of public, private and civil sectors.



To fulfill its aims Association particularly:

- 1) collects and processes scientific and professional literature in the field of environmental protection and sustainable development;
- 2) conducts evaluation, needs assessment, research and analysis in the field of operation of the Association
- 3) organizes, solely or in partnership with other organizations / institutions, professional meetings, conferences, round tables, forums, conferences and other events
- 4) provides all forms of formal and non-formal education in the field of operation of the Association
- 5) publishes books and other publications in the field of operation of the Association
- 6) organizes domestic and foreign experts to work on training within the realization of the objectives of the Association
- 7) organizes volunteering actions;
- 8) collaborates with public, private and civil sector institutions (universities, schools, vocational associations, agencies, OCD, and other organizations in the country and abroad);
- 9) draws up and implements projects in the field of Association's scope of activity to resolve problems and support democratic society;
- 10) involves all stakeholders in the process of decision making during the whole project cycle,

in the field of: environmental protection, sustainable development, society democratization, improvement of the youth status, public policy, inclusion of marginalized groups, gender equality, formal and non-formal education, local economic growth, poverty alleviation, entrepreneurship, social entrepreneurship, agriculture, health service, culture and civil society development.



## PROJECTS AND ACTIONS

During 2016 the Association has implemented the following projects:

### **PROJECT: "Empowered women for the next step"**

During May and June 2016 Plant has implemented the project "Empowered women for the next step," which is funded by the Australian Embassy in Serbia through the Australian Embassy Direct Aid Program (DAP). Partner in the project was the Center for Girls Niš.

The aim of the project was to empower beneficiaries of the Center for Girls Niš through training of self-defense, with purpose to build self-confidence, personal courage and ability to handle crisis situations to protect themselves from bullies.

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### **PROJECT: "Youth Empowerment for solidar economy"**

From August to December 2016, the Association of Citizens Plant implemented the project "Youth Empowerment for the solidarity economy", which is supported by the City of Niš, Administration for Youth.

The aim of the project was to reduce youth unemployment through active involvement of students of secondary vocational schools in extracurricular activities for the acquisition of entrepreneurial skills and self-employment, with a focus on social entrepreneurship.

During project implementation were formed social enterprises in the two vocational schools in Niš, "Legal business school" and "School of fashion and beauty." The target group are students of third and fourth year who are motivated to acquire new knowledge and skills and to strengthen their capacity for entrepreneurship.



**PROJECT: "Sign language for a better access to the education system"**

The "Sign language for a better access to the education system" was implemented in the period from August to December 2016.

The aim of the project was the training of participants / representatives of primary schools in Nis in basic sign language, which will allow parents / guardians of students who are deaf or hard of hearing people to overcome barriers in access to the education system.

The purpose of the project is to break down prejudices about deaf people, to contribute to a more efficient inclusion of deaf and hard of hearing and deaf people are encouraged to take INCLUDES in the social life of the community.

The project was:

- Provided support for the hearing impaired to access the education system, encouraging their social involvement and psychological empowerment;
- Achieved greater social inclusion of persons with hearing disabilities into society, improving the quality of life of people with hearing disabilities, improving their psychological and physical condition and their greater visibility in the community.

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**PROJECT: "Empowering young people through the acquisition of entrepreneurial skills"**

Period of the implementation of project "Empowering young people through the acquisition of entrepreneurial skills" is from June 2016 to February 2017. Project partners are the Agricultural socks service Agrozem Ltd. and the Civic Initiative for Employment of Nis, and is financially supported by the Ministry of Youth and Sports ([www.mos.gov.rs](http://www.mos.gov.rs)).

The overall objective of the project is to empower young people for the achievement of economic independence by increasing knowledge and improving skills for self-employment in agricultural production.

Through the project is:

- Animated 300 young people to acquire new knowledge and skills
- The provided material and technical preconditions for the practical training of young people
- Raised the capacity of 50 young people for vegetable production and self-employment
- Business incubation of 10 businesses young people with mentoring support
- Realized media campaign



In the long term, the project will affect:

- Increased self-employment of young people
  - Increased the economic independence of young people
  - Activated the potentials of young people
  - Fueled associating among young
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### **PROJECT: "Change habits - support nature"**

In April 2016 the Association of Citizens Plant has begun implementation of the project "Change habits - support nature" which is supported by the City of Nis, Administration for economy, sustainable development and environmental protection.

The project aims to raise awareness of the population, especially young people on sustainable development and sustainable habits, through the encouragement of activism, building partnerships and creating open an inclusive e-platform in the field of environmental protection.

The project affects:

- Promoting values, behavior and lifestyles of citizens in the field of sustainable development;
  - Change the attitudes and behavior of citizens concerning questions of waste, food, water, transport, energy, consumption and nature;
  - Mapping environmental problems.
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### **ACTION: Earth Hour 2016**

On 19th March we marked also the Earth Hour at 8.30 p.m. when it was the light turned off, for one hour, in homes, schools, office buildings, the famous buildings and monuments around the globe.

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**ACTION: Earth Day 2016 - TREES FOR EARTH!**

On April 22 was celebrated Earth Day. The goal of this year's celebration was planting trees. Trees help fight climate change. It absorbs excess harmful CO<sub>2</sub> from the atmosphere. Trees help to breathe cleaner air. Trees absorb odors and harmful gases and particulate air filter, absorbing them through their leaves and bark. Trees help the company to achieve long-term economic and environmental benefits, provides food, energy and income.

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**ACTION: International Day for recycling in 2016**

On 17th May we marked the Recycling International Day of Recycling. Use of biodegradable instead of plastic bags, or use of products made from recycled materials, reduce pollution and prevent further disruption of the natural environment. However, a much bigger danger presents the electronic waste that increases daily. Therefore, by recycling instead of throwing the old TVs, computers, mobile phones and other devices, we reduce the number of hazardous, toxic waste, and thus preserves the planet Earth for generations to come.

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**ACTION: International Youth Day 2016**

On 12th August, we marked the International Youth Day participating the action on the central square in Nis, together with a number of youth associations.

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**ACTION: Youth day of the City of Nis 2016**

On September the 1st, we marked the Youth day of the City of Nis actively participating in the event on the Central City square in front of the TC Kalča.



**LIST OF ACTIVITIES**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Description</b>
10.05.2016	Signed a contract with the Embassy of Australia in Belgrade, for the implementation of the project "Empowered women for the next step" in the program of direct assistance (DAP). The project was implemented in cooperation with the Center for Girls from Niš.
17. 05.2016	Representatives of Plant attended the consultative meeting on the Draft National Action Plan for the implementation of Security Council Resolution 1325 United Nations - Women, Peace and Security in the Republic of Serbia (2016-2020) in the Assembly of the city Nis.
23.05.2016	Organized a press conference to present the project "Empowered women for the next step" that implements Plant in cooperation with the Centre for Girls, with the financial support of the Embassy of Australia, through the DAP
23-25.05. 2016	Workshops were held at the Center for girls in the project "Empowered women for the next step" on gender-based violence and domestic violence.
30.05- 08.06.	Implemented as self-defense training for 25 participants, beneficiaries of the Center for girls in the project "Empowered women for the next step"
10.06.2016	In the premises of the Centre for Girls, at the closing event, were awarded certificates to beneficiary Center for Girls, for the successful completion of training of self-defense
14.06.2016	In the Ministry of Youth and Sports signed a contract for the implementation of the project "Empowering young people through the acquisition of entrepreneurial skills" to the Association of Citizens Plant implemented in cooperation with the Agricultural Extension Service Agrozem Ltd. and the Civil Initiative for Employment of Nis.
30.06.2016	Held a press conference to present the project "Empowering young people through the acquisition of entrepreneurial skills" financed from the budget of the Republic of Serbia Ministry of Youth and Sports.





01.07.2016	In the Town Hall by the Mayor of Nis delivered the contract to PLANT for the implementation of the project "Empowering young people for the solidarity economy" which is financially supported by the City of Nis
18.08.2016	Representatives of Plant attended to the meeting of the Youth Office of the City of Nis, where he discussed marking September 1 - the Day of Youth of the City of Nis
19.08.2016	Representatives of Plant attended to the Consultative Meeting to discuss draft versions of the text of the Action Plan for the implementation of the initiative for Open Government Partnership for the period 2016 to 2017, organized by TACSO Resource Center of Civic Initiatives
31.08.2016	Representatives of Plant attended to the Consultative Meeting "What could be better in the existing Law on volunteering and its application?", Organized by Protecta in the premises of the Youth Office of the City of Nis.
08-17.09.2016	Conducted two sets of three-day training for the young unemployed people within the framework of the project "Empowering young people through the acquisition of entrepreneurial skills" funded by the Ministry of Youth and Sports:  I set • Basics of entrepreneurship and social entrepreneurship • Creating a business plan • Registration of agricultural holdings Set II • Integrated Production • Organic production • Standards in Agriculture
17.09.2016	After successful completion of training in the framework of the project "Empowering young people through the acquisition of entrepreneurial skills" funded by the Ministry of Youth and Sports, youth were at the gala event awarded certificates.
28.09.2016	The Legal Business School in Nis, organized a press conference to present the project "Empowering youth for solidarity economy", implemented by the Association of Citizens PLANT in partnership with two secondary vocational schools from Nis, Legal Business School and the School of Fashion and beauty and funded by the city of Niš.
29.09.2016	Within the project "Empowering young people to acquire entrepreneurial



	skills", which is supported by the Ministry of Youth and Sport, organized a successful tour of the greenhouse vegetable producers in Batušinac.
04.10.2016	Ambassador of Australia to Serbia Julia Feeney, attended the final press conference of the project "Empowered women to take the next step," which is implemented by the Association of Citizens Plant in cooperation with the Center for girls and with the financial support of the Embassy of Australia.
06.10.2016	Held the first in a series of education for students of the School of Fashion and beauty in Nis, in the framework of the project "Empowering youth for solidarity economy"
10.10.2016	Education in Legal business school in the framework of the project "Empowerment of youth for solidarity economy", which is supported by City of Nis
11.10.2016	Practical training in the greenhouse under the project "Empowering young people through the acquisition of entrepreneurial skills" funded by the Ministry of Youth and Sports "- planting green onion.
27.-28.10.2016	Representatives of Plant attended at workshop in Kraljevo within the project "Partnership for good governance 'which implement the European Movement in Serbia and the European Policy Centre in Belgrade.
01.11.2016	Practical training in the greenhouse under the project "Empowering young people through the acquisition of entrepreneurial skills" funded by the Ministry of Youth and Sports " – planting lettuce.
17-20.11.2016	Within the first phase of the project "Sustainable Agriculture for Sustainable Balkans: Enhancing the capacity of CSOs for advocacy and policy development in the Western Balkans", implemented by ORCA with partners from Montenegro, Macedonia, Kosovo and Albania, representatives of Plant attended the four-day training in Kragujevac.
23.11.2016	Ministry of Agriculture and Environmental Protection and the Ministry of Health, presented the Parma declaration, in the City Hall, to meet the next Ministerial Conference to be held in June 2017.
29.11.2016	Representatives of Plant attended at the presentation of the survey results on energy efficiency and empirical case studies that students of the three faculties prepared, within the project "My energy city" that implements Protecta from Nis



06.12.2016.	Representatives Planta attended at the conference "Violence against women, girls, girls is a crime, so it should be, and punish," which was held in the organization of Center for girls from Nis, University of Nis
12.12.2016	Ceremony of certificates for representatives who has successfully completed the School of Human Rights Defenders (Civil Rights Defenders). Events organized in Aeroklub in Belgrade.
12.12.2016	Representatives od Plant attended to the lecture of US Ambassador Kyle Skata on "Relations between USA and Serbia in the era of Donald Trump" in the hall of the University of Nis. Organizers - Serbian American Friendship Club and the U.S. Embassy in Belgrade
13.12.2016	<p>Donor meeting and subsequent press conference was conducted for successfully completed project "Empowering young people for solidarity economy" through which 50 young people trained to successfully creating their own business plan and present their business idea to donors.</p> <p>Their business ideas and business plans presented 6 teams, 3 from the Law School of Business and 3 from the School of Fashion and beauty. Represented by the following teams:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Frutoreks - Manufacture of natural juices and fruit salads</li><li>2. Advocates agency - providing legal services to marginalized groups</li><li>3. FRANKENCAKE - production muffins</li><li>4. Manicure pedicure salon "Alexander" - manicure and pedicure services</li><li>5. Beauty salon "Mina" - beauty care</li><li>6. Bakery "Tea" - production of pastry</li></ol>
16.12.2016	Representatives of Plant attended to the meeting with Ombudsman Sasa Jankovic with interested media representatives and civil society organizations.
22.12.2016	Training for preparation of projects for youth mobility program Erasmus + in Nis
22.12.2016	By awarding of certificates and press conference was successfully completed project " Sign language for a better access to the education system, " which is implemented by the Association of Citizens Plant in cooperation with the City organization of deaf and Nis with the support of the City of Nis.



## PUBLICATION

- Manual "Empowered women for the next step"  
<http://media1.nvoplant.rs/2016/06/Prirucnik.pdf>
- Brochure "Step by step to social enterprise"  
<http://media1.nvoplant.rs/2016/06/Brosura-za-sajt.pdf>
- Autor video record/movie "PERSPECTIVE OF DISAPPEARANCES"  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V8GFkI91xhYD>

## MEDIA

22.05.2016	Morning program TV Belle amie <a href="https://www.facebook.com/UdruzenjeGradjanaPLANT/videos/599588680217758/">https://www.facebook.com/UdruzenjeGradjanaPLANT/videos/599588680217758/</a>
23.05.2016	News TV Belle amie <a href="https://youtu.be/Mp_jb3uLsh4">https://youtu.be/Mp_jb3uLsh4</a>
23.05.2016	On the radio hosting SUPER Nis
05.06.2016	Pictures of the day, TV Belle amie <a href="https://www.facebook.com/UdruzenjeGradjanaPLANT/videos/618427778333848/">https://www.facebook.com/UdruzenjeGradjanaPLANT/videos/618427778333848/</a>
14.06.2016	<a href="http://www.vesti.rs/Jug.../Devojke-spremne-za-samoodbranu.html">http://www.vesti.rs/Jug.../Devojke-spremne-za-samoodbranu.html</a>
14.06.2016	<a href="http://jugmedia.rs/devojke-spremne-za-samoodbranu/">http://jugmedia.rs/devojke-spremne-za-samoodbranu/</a>
15.06.2016	<a href="http://novinarionline.com/5085-2/">http://novinarionline.com/5085-2/</a>
29.06.2016	Good day, NTV, guesting
30.06.2016	Afternoon with..., TV Belle amie, guesting



30.06.2016	Belle amie <a href="https://youtu.be/r4ap_9YI_hk">https://youtu.be/r4ap_9YI_hk</a>
30.06.2016	Narodne novine, article
05.07.2016	Danas, TV Zona plus <a href="https://youtu.be/dIdVwuCJAP8?t=1379">https://youtu.be/dIdVwuCJAP8?t=1379</a>
13.07.2016	Jobs, edition of the National Employment Service, article
26.07.2016	Narodne novine, article
01.09.2016	Ekonometar, <a href="http://www.nirapress.com/obuka-za-organsku-proizvodnju/">http://www.nirapress.com/obuka-za-organsku-proizvodnju/</a>
29.09.2016	News TV Belle amie <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sHZ2kZD0nPQ">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sHZ2kZD0nPQ</a>
29.09.2016	Narodne novine, article
04.10.2016	News TV Belle Amie <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nNADbmXwvWw">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nNADbmXwvWw</a>
13.12.2016	<a href="http://www.belami.rs/video-korak-u-svet-rada/">http://www.belami.rs/video-korak-u-svet-rada/</a> <a href="https://youtu.be/brxPHOUekLI">https://youtu.be/brxPHOUekLI</a>
15.12.2016	Narodne novine, article
24.12.2016	Narodne novine, article

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Web: [www.nvoplant.rs](http://www.nvoplant.rs)

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