



# Annual Report **2005**



**Salvați Copiii**  
Save the Children Romania



**Camelia  
Iordache**  
President



**Gabriela  
Alexandrescu**  
Executive  
President

## We make children's rights a reality

In 2005, Salvați Copiii celebrated 15 years of activity in Romania and 8 years since it has become a member of the world's largest independent movement for children, the International Save the Children Alliance.

All these years, we have worked together with youth and children to produce long-lasting changes and make progresses. One of the milestones in our involvement was to recognize and support parents', guardians', teachers', other specialists' and local authorities' responsibility in providing education and welfare for children. We carry out constant activities to support parents and specialists working with children in order to fulfil their duties. At the same time, we have carried out lobby and advocacy activities, on a permanent basis, in order to influence upon the legislation, strategies and practices for ensuring the respect of children's rights.

The year of 2005 meant the consolidation of the educational programmes for all the categories of vulnerable children. «We want to change the world and education is the most powerful weapon. We want to be free and education means freedom.», Mihai, a child aged 12 from Galați, told us. A teenage girl who has been working since she was very young and graduated 2 grades at the age of 16 asked for our support: «I need a lot of help because it is hard for me. For the future, I would like to have a job, a home and a family.» We focused on providing equal opportunities to a sustainable future for the children who had not the opportunity to be enrolled in school. Children do understand that without education they cannot become respected and responsible adults.

Unfortunately, Romania faces a very difficult situation in this respect: the poverty rate among children and youth is much higher than the average for the whole population: (25%), many children are obliged to work in harsh conditions to economically support their families (70,000), the enrolment rate in secondary education is still at a low level (72.9%) and the school drop-out rate increased to 1.5% and doubled compared to 1995.

That is why Salvați Copiii, with the support of its specialists and volunteers, has provided educational support for the children from poor communities, Roma children, children in residential care institutions, HIV/AIDS children from rural communities, street children, working children and refugee children living in Romania. We would like to endow them with self-confidence and knowledge in order to succeed in life.

We have a wide support from youth, university and high-school students who get involved on a permanent basis in the programmes for children. Romania has this fantastic resource we have to turn to the best account. This will change our society into an environment favourable for all, where the principles of equality, non-discrimination, equal opportunities will be part of the everyday reality.

**Camelia Iordache**, President

**Gabriela Alexandrescu**, Executive President

## Our vision

Our vision is a world where all the rights of the child are respected. Save the Children Romania works for:

- a world which respects and values each child;
- a world which listens to children and learns;
- a world where all children have hope and opportunity;
- a world where all children are protected from any type of violence, abuse and exploitation.



**The International Save the Children Alliance** is world's largest independent global movement for children. It has 27 member organizations and implements programmes in over 110 countries.

**Salvați Copiii Romania** became a member of the International Save the Children Alliance in 1997, being the only organization from South-Eastern Europe active within this body. From 2005, the Executive President of Salvați Copiii Romania has been a member of the International Save the Children Alliance's Board.

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# We also have Rights

## PROMOTING THE UN CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD

The programme's objective is to provide children and youth with the opportunity to get actively involved in the society. Child participation is one of the major principles of the UN Convention, also being the fundamental right to express their opinion in all the matters concerning them.

### WORKSHOPS AND DEBATE GROUPS

In 2005, about **10,600 children** from Bucharest and the 15 local branches participated in workshops and debates on the rights of the child in over 180 schools and colleges. These were organized by 400 teachers, school counsellors and volunteers trained by using interactive methods that encourage children to participate and express their opinion: role play, case studies, discussion groups, media monitoring and creativity activities.

### "CHILD RIGHTS" CONTEST

3,500 children (aged 12-14 years) from all the schools where child rights classes are organized participated in this event. This was an opportunity for them to show their knowledge on this topic acquired during the year.



In Bucharest, the contest was organized as an **Educational Exhibition for Promoting Child Rights** (3-4 June) based on a partnership with the School Inspectorate of Bucharest and Radio Romania News. 30 schools and colleges displayed materials produced by children during the school year (drawings on the rights of the child, collage, clay models, photos, projects). The teachers participated in a debate on "Violence against children" held in the Radio Hall.

**CHILDREN'S NATIONAL FORUM**, which is based on the idea that a meaningful participation of children is the best strategy to implement child-oriented programmes, brings together children and authorities and gives them the opportunity to exchange experience. The Forum, held on 3-4 June 2005, had the theme "**Children say NO to violence**". 55 children from the 15 Salvați Copiii local branches,

the General Secretariat and partner organizations ASCHFR and Master Forum participated in this event. There were present representatives of several institutions responsible for improving the situation regarding violence against children such as: UNICEF, National Authority for the Protection of the Rights of the Child, Ministry of Administration and Interior, Ministry of Labour, Social Solidarity and Family, Ministry of Education and Research and Ministry of Health.

Children asked the authorities' representatives to get much more involved when cases of family violence occur and they required the Police to take action in cases of aggression in schools by both providing protection and sending specialists to give lectures to children.

### 16 YEARS OF EXISTENCE OF THE UN CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD

On 20<sup>th</sup> November, the date when the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child was adopted 16 years ago, **25 volunteers and children** produced and performed **a play** on the rights of the child focused on violence against children. Conceived as a theatre-forum, the play was performed on the stage of ACT Theatre in Bucharest. All the 15 local branches carried out over 30 activities (sketches, round tables, debates in schools) with the participation of over 4,000 de children, specialists and parents. A second performance of the play took place on 6<sup>th</sup> December on the stage of the same theatre and it was the starting point for a debate on violence, attended by parents, teachers and representatives of the authorities.

### CHILDREN'S ANNUAL MEETING – "Children's right to opinion and participation", Căprioara, 27 June – 4 July

**150 children and adolescents** from the 15 local branches and the General Secretariat participated in the 10<sup>th</sup> edition, organized with the support of the National Agency for Youth. The programme included activities carried out within 8 workshops on child rights, preventing violence against children, preventing trafficking in human beings, education for health, journalism, education through art, theatre.

**CHILDREN'S CARNIVAL**, an event with a tradition, gathered 240 children from schools, residential care institutions, educational centres for working children, refugee children and it included artistic performances, costumes and dance contests.

**PUBLICATIONS:** Teacher's Guide, Handbook for the 6<sup>th</sup> grade students, Notebook for the 6<sup>th</sup> grade students.



# Participation and community involvement

By establishing the Young Volunteers' Centre, Salvați Copiii has taken action to mobilize youth in order to orientate them, according to their motivation and skills, to the projects implemented in schools, residential care institutions, the refugee centre and projects targeting less favoured children.

## TRAINING SESSIONS FOR THE YOUNG VOLUNTEERS

**50 youth** benefited from the 2 training sessions held within the project **"We also have rights"**;

**120 volunteers** from Dâmbovița, Neamț, Mureș, Dolj, Vaslui and Argeș local branches were trained on "Techniques for communication with adolescents", "Volunteering - roles, benefits and responsibilities", "Techniques to draft project proposals";

**Training of Trainers session** "Volunteering – the first step towards a future profession", Poiana Pinului, 20–25 August. 62 active volunteers from local branches and 4 Swedish youth were trained in four workshops: "Communication with children and adolescents", "Leadership and team work", "Volunteering values", "Project design and fundraising".

## CAMPAIGNS AND DEBATES

**20 volunteers** participated in the activities to inform the population about the 1% provision within a campaign carried out in Bucharest;

**39 volunteers** promoted the objectives of the fundraising campaign **"The Month of Open Hearts"** for the economically exploited children launched by Salvați Copiii in partnership with Cora Hipermarket;

**National Consultation on Violence against Children.** Volunteers from Bucharest, Suceava, Târgu Mureș, Brașov, Timișoara, Iași and Petrila local branches applied questionnaires on violence against children to 715 children

aged between 12 and 18 years;

During the **International Book Fair "Gaudeamus"**, **17 volunteers** presented to the visitors information about the programmes and campaigns initiated by Salvați Copiii and the volunteering activity;

**The campaigns to prevent violence against children gathered 24 volunteers**, who participated in organizing the theatre project "Children say NO to violence" as well as in the street information campaigns.

## PUBLICATIONS:

4 issues of the "YES for Opinion" magazine were published in Romanian and English ("All children have the right to education", "Media role in the Romanian society", "Our camps", "Childhood – A piece of heaven?").



## Young volunteers involved in the activities carried out by Salvați Copiii Romania

Over 616 youth have become volunteers in the 15 Salvați Copiii local branches and the General Secretariat;

About 500 volunteers were active in the campaigns carried out by Salvați Copiii in Bucharest and the local branches;

Over 4,300 de children and adolescents were informed about the activities of the organization through the publication edited by the volunteers "YES for Opinion".

# Information and Research

## CENTRE OF INFORMATION, DOCUMENTATION AND RESEARCH ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD

The violation of children's rights to a decent living standard, the limited access to health care services or to quality education, the lack of a real protection against discrimination are problems Romania still faces and has to overcome. Monitoring children's rights by non-governmental organizations is a very useful tool to put pressure at political level in order to adapt the policies to children's current priorities. The statistical data, qualitative and quantitative research may be starting points for governmental and non-governmental programmes.

### GENERAL OBJECTIVE OF THE ACTIVITIES

The programme aims at reaching a high level of information by the public and the concerned actors involved in child protection at local, regional and international levels. Thus, the activities of the Centre of Information, Documentation and Research on the Rights of the Child were structured according to the target groups: representatives of authorities, non-governmental actors, the public, children and students.

The research studies conducted by the Centre in 2005 were related to violence against children and the level of knowledge on children's rights. The campaign for promoting all children's access to quality education continued.

### THE STUDY OF THE UN GENERAL SECRETARIAT ON VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN

Salvați Copiii elaborated a **National Report on Sexual Abuse against Children** that will contribute to the Final Report of the UN Study together with other materials provided by the countries from Central and South-Eastern Europe.

The National Report includes an analysis of the situation (e.g. statistics, legislation, main actors involved and the records of the local services that assist the victims and offenders) structured in the following chapters: children's perception of violence (including the opinion of sexually abused children), juvenile justice, specialists' opinion related to the factors that favour sexual abuse, campaigns carried out by Salvați Copiii aiming at reducing all forms of violence against children. The data collection also had in view to identify children's perception of violence and this information was included in the national report as well as in the brochure "**Children Say NO to Violence!**".

### CHILD RIGHTS IN ROMANIA – KNOWLEDGE AND OBSERVANCE

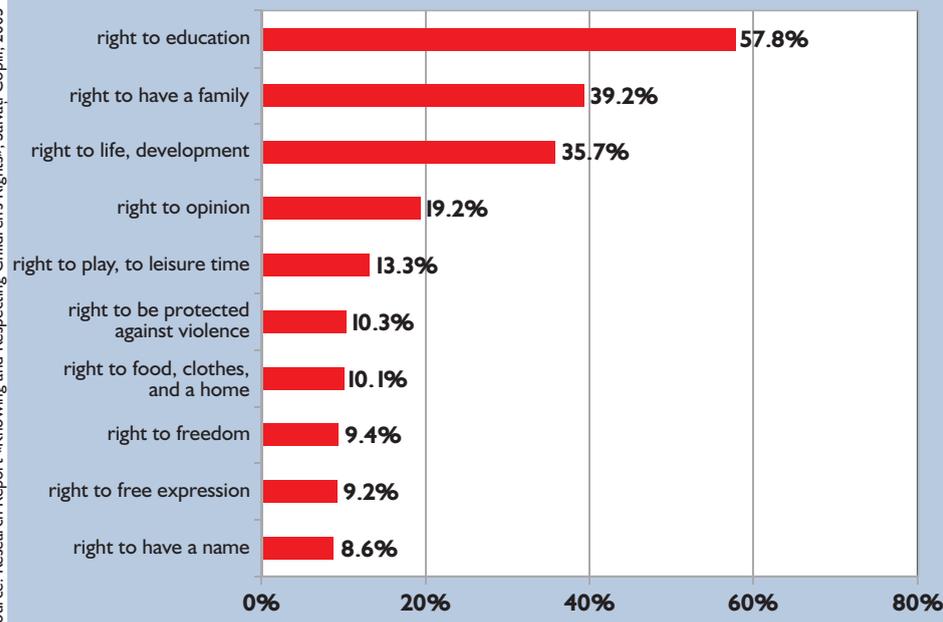
The Centre of Information, Documentation and Research on the Rights of the Child coordinated the quantitative research "Knowing and Respecting Children's Rights" conducted during March-April 2005, in Bucharest and seven cities: Brașov, Craiova, Galați, Iași, Mangalia, Târgu-Mureș and Timișoara. The objective of this research was to identify the perceptions of the children, parents and teachers on the

importance of the rights of the child and to what extent they are observed both in schools and in the family environment.

### CHILDREN DEPRIVED OF ADULTS' SUPPORT – Regional Report based on a secondary analysis of data

Data about the situation of children from care institutions were collected in Romania and other countries in the region (Bulgaria, Croatia, Estonia, Kosovo, Lithuania, Moldova and Serbia). The following aspects were included in the regional analysis: statistics on the number of children from care institutions, types of child care institutions, the main categories of beneficiaries, violations of child rights in care institutions and information related to the control and regulation system.

Three of the most important rights of the child in the opinion of the students from 6<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grades



Source: Research Report «Knowing and Respecting Children's Rights», Salvați Copiii, 2005

## CAMPAIGNS

### Global Education Campaign – 2005

Over 7,500 children from 50 schools in Bucharest and the counties where Salvați Copiii has local branches coordinated this action and produced over 550 paper carvings representing the children who cannot go to school. The campaign used the slogan **“Send my friend to school!”** and involved the children in debates that aimed at identifying the causes of school drop-out.

### “Politicians go back to school“

Over 100 personalities of the political, social life and media visited schools and educational centres in Bucharest and 9 counties. They had an active dialogue with students and teachers in order to improve teachers' involvement in reducing school drop-out, the conditions in the education units and the quality of the teaching process.

### “Children Say YES to Education! NO to Exploitation!“ – Children's Caravan

On 12<sup>th</sup> June, the World Day Against Child Labour, children and young volunteers had meetings with representatives of the Ministry of Education and Research, Government, Senate House, City Hall of Bucharest, Local Departments for Social Assistance and Child Protection (in Sectors 1, 2, 3 and 6 of Bucharest) that aimed at supporting alternative education methods in order to combat child labour.

## ROUND TABLES, SEMINARS

### Round table “Education for Combating Poverty“

In April, round tables were organized in nine counties where Salvați Copiii local branches are active: Brașov, Constanța, Galați, Hunedoara, Iași, Mureș, Suceava, Timiș and Vaslui. The theme of these events was “Education for combating poverty“. The aim of these meetings was to identify the main causes of school drop-out and to elaborate recommendations for a non-discriminatory access to quality education.



### National Seminar “Violence against Children“

The National Seminar “Violence against Children“ was organized on 30<sup>th</sup> May with the support of the Ministry of Culture and Religious Affairs. Representatives of the ministries, local authorities, international organizations and non-governmental organizations active in preventing violence and assisting the victims of this phenomenon attended the seminar. The objective of the seminar was to inform the participants about the objectives of the UN Study on Violence against Children, the global extent of this phenomenon as well as about Romania's responsibilities as a UN member state.

## NUMBER OF CHILDREN INVOLVED

**Over 8,500 children** were involved in the activities carried out by the Information Centre;

**Over 7,500 children** were involved in the campaign to ensure a non-discriminatory access to quality education;

**958 children** participated in the research on the rights of the child;

About **60 children** participated in the focus-groups on violence, their opinion being included in the brochure “Children Say NO to Violence!“.



## PUBLICATIONS:

“Child Rights – between principles and reality“, „Knowing and Respecting Children's Rights – research report“, “Monitor Child Rights“, „Children Say NO to Violence!“, “All Children Have the Right to Quality Education!“, e-newsletter “Info Child Rights”

# Education for Health

## DRUG ABUSE PREVENTION

At present, illicit substance abuse is spread to all social layers, but it mainly affects the adolescents who do not have enough information about drug abuse prevention and its effects upon their health condition.



### OUTCOMES

230 young volunteers were selected and involved in organizing educational and extra-curricular activities in schools;  
8,000 adolescents and youth received information about HIV/AIDS, STIs and drug abuse during the classes held in 110 schools and high-schools;  
10,000 young people and adults received information about HIV/AIDS, STIs and drug abuse during the extra-curricular activities (street campaigns, contests on health issues);  
3,600,000 adolescents and young people aged between 15 – 25 years watched the TV spot **“Drugs kill”** or they heard the radio advertisement at least once;  
58 school counsellors from Bucharest and 11 counties participated in the training course **“Promoting alternative education methods for children”**;

The research conducted by Salvați Copiii and the University of Bucharest – Faculty of Sociology, during the period July 2004 – January 2005, revealed that 8% of the children aged between 11-14 years do smoke, while 4% frequently drink alcohol. Out of the total sample (11-22 years old), 4% stated they took illegal drugs at least once. The percentage of children who ever tried illegal drugs is 1% for those aged between 11-14 years, 3.3% for those aged 15-18 years and 10.9% for those aged 19-22 years. As concerns the regular abuse of illicit drugs during the past 12 months, 0.4% of the children and young people questioned admitted to have taken cocaine, 0.2% marihuana and 0.1% heroine.

500 children from the residential care institutions in Dolj, Galați, Brăila, Caraș-Severin, Mureș, Hunedoara, Brașov, Harghita, Covasna, Suceava, Botoșani, Dâmbovița, Tulcea and Vâlcea counties received information about preventing the sexually transmitted infections from 89 trained specialists; Within the partnership with the Ministry of Education and Research, the national programme **“Education for Health in Romanian Schools”**, Salvați Copiii was involved in developing the school curriculum, respectively the part related to **“Addiction and Abuse of Toxic Substances”** by drafting the methodological notebooks for the students in 2<sup>nd</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> grades and by training the teachers at national level.

### PUBLICATIONS

Brochure for parents **“THE DRUGS: you and your child”** – 25,000 copies;  
**“The Drugs – The Big Cheat”**: Education brochure (15,000 copies) and a multimedia CD (3,000 copies) for the students in 5<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> grades;  
Information/promotional material for the national programme **“Education for Health”** specific for the campaign at the seaside (posters, leaflets, brochures, bags, caps, T-shirts, shorts);  
10,000 sets of leaflets (alcohol, tobacco, marijuana, cocaine, heroine, ecstasy, HIV/AIDS);  
Educational brochure **“It's time to be honest”** for the students from 9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grades – 15,000 copies, leaflets, posters **“Watch the world with different eyes”**;  
Methodological notebooks for the students in the 2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> grades (10,000 copies) and for students in the 5<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> grades (10,000 copies);  
1,500 copies – Research Report on Drug Abuse among Youth;  
Anti-drug documentary films (heroine, cocaine, amphetamines, alcohol, tobacco, cannabis) – 3,000 copies;  
1,500 copies **“Juridical Guide on Child and Family Protection”**;  
500 copies of the Kit for Volunteers – Education for Health Programme.

As per the statistics made available by the Ministry of Health, the incidence of the STIs, including HIV among youth, dramatically increased during the past three years, while youth knowledge about the sexually transmitted diseases is incorrect or incomplete.

The aim of the programme is to reduce the incidence of the sexually transmitted infections and the drug abuse among adolescents and youth by building a healthy and responsible behaviour (Argeș, Brașov, București, Caraș-Severin, Constanța, Dâmbovița, Dolj, Galați, Hunedoara, Iași, Mureș, Neamț, Suceava, Timiș and Vaslui).



## CAMPAINS TO PREVENT DRUG ABUSE AMONG YOUTH

### The campaign “The sea, our only addiction” (25 July – 22 August)

The campaign, carried out in partnership with the Anti-Drug National Agency and financially supported by the Ministry of Health through the Global Fund for Combating HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, aimed at reducing the drug abuse among youth through information and awareness campaign on the negative effects of drug abuse on both short and long term. Thus, 12,000 youth aged between 15-25 years, who were at the seaside, participated in discussions about substance abuse, contests on related themes and sports competitions organized in cooperation with local radio stations.

### “Don't be a HERO” – Campaign to prevent heroine abuse among adolescents

Started on 1<sup>st</sup> November 2005, in collaboration with Bravo magazine and ROTON Records Company, this campaign included 650,000 youth who received information on the prevention means and the hazards the adolescents who take heroin are exposed to.

At the same time, the representatives of Bravo magazine decided to donate a percentage from the sale of that special issue (13,000 EUR) with a view to administrating the funds to equip the detoxification section of “Alexandru Obregia” Hospital.

## AWARDS

In 2005, Salvați Copiii was awarded the “Special Award for Continuous Excellence” at



the third edition of the Public Relations Excellence Gala for the activities carried out in the framework of the project “Drug abuse prevention among youth”. The Anti-Drug National Agency awarded Salvați Copiii Romania with the **Diploma for Excellence** for the involvement in drug abuse prevention programmes.



## SUPPORT FOR HIV POSITIVE CHILDREN

The situations when HIV/AIDS children are discriminated, isolated, rejected or labelled are multiple. In spite of the legal framework on the rights of the children affected by HIV/AIDS and the efforts made by non-governmental organizations in this respect, many of their rights are still violated: the right to education, the right to health care services and the right to confidentiality.

In 2005, 9 cases of children under 14 years old with AIDS and 16 HIV positive children were traced out in Romania. Also, 98 children aged between 15 and 18 years were traced out to have AIDS, while 56 tested HIV positive.

The projects carried out by Salvați Copiii have as target groups both children affected by HIV/AIDS living in care centres, as well as children living in natural or foster families.

In the framework of the project for HIV/AIDS children in care centres in Dolj, Olt, Galați, Brăila, Vaslui, Caraș-Severin, Suceava and Botoșani counties, the activities consisted of: training for the caregivers (15 persons), information sessions for 60 children affected by HIV/AIDS with a view to prevent

further infections with HIV, sexually transmitted infections, socializing activities for 110 children in order to prepare them for an independent life, equipping and fitting out of *Children's Club* within the Placement Centre "Floare de Colț" (Edelweiss) from Balș, Olt county.

The projects for HIV/AIDS children from natural or foster families in Bucharest and Dolj, Dâmbovița and Hunedoara counties aimed at providing counselling to adults, including counselling on revealing the diagnosis and preparing children for an independent life.

### "ROXANA" HOUSE

"Roxana House" is an alternative care model for 6 HIV positive children, which is based on the emotional relation between adults and children and on ensuring an environment as close as possible to the family one. Children participated in the Children's Rights Exhibition, organized on the Child's International Day and exhibited their drawings having as subject children suffering different types of abuse. They were awarded the 2<sup>nd</sup> prize.

26 HIV positive children who live in the family-type houses in Dămăroaia district, in Bucharest, including Roxana House, spent 3 days in the mountains, at Sinaia.

# Counselling centres for abused, neglected and trafficked children

In 2005, Salvați Copiii continued the prevention, psychotherapy and social intervention programme on child abuse and combating trafficking in children in the seven Counselling Centres for abused, neglected and trafficked children in Bucharest, Iași, Timișoara, Suceava, Târgu Mureș, Târgoviște and Caraș-Severin.

The project is focused on specialised intervention in cases of child abuse, neglect and trafficking, building a multi-disciplinary and inter-institutional network in every city where these centres are running. Also, the project ensures prevention of child abuse and trafficking in children through information sessions, held in schools, for children, parents and teachers, and *lobby* and *advocacy* for legal change and intervention programmes.

The direct beneficiaries are children victims of abuse and trafficking, parents of the children who suffered different types of abuse, specialists from the institutions authorized in child protection (psychologists, social workers, legal counsellors and policemen) and volunteers.

During 2005, the Counselling Centres provided 649 abused children with rehabilitation and counselling. The following types of abuse were identified: 83 cases of physical abuse, 182 cases of emotional abuse, 46 cases of sexual abuse, 69 cases of neglect, 23 cases of trafficking, 138 cases of other behavioural disorders (19 psychological reports requested by institutions), 108 cases of counselling for parents.

## The campaign “Beating does not come from heaven”

In 2005, Salvați Copiii relaunched the campaign “Beating does not come from heaven” that aimed at promoting the law that bans all corporal punishment and humiliating treatments against children (Law 272/2004 – entered in force on 01.01.2005) and changing the mentalities related to children's education by using educational methods that exclude violence.

Partnership agreements were concluded with the Ministry of Education and Research and School Inspectorates with a view to carry out the campaign in schools;

During the campaign, about 223,000 persons (students, teachers, parents and specialists) were informed on the consequences of violence;

Two public debates were organised in Timișoara (20 participants) and Bucharest (136 participants) where specialists, parents and children discussed about the ways to prevent the inappropriate, violent behaviours between adults and children.

According to the data made available by the General Inspectorate of Romanian Police – Research Institute for Criminality Prevention, 691 cases of abused and neglected children were registered in 2005, out of which 378 cases of rape, 151 cases of sexual intercourse with a minor, 62 cases of sexual perversion, 56 cases of sexual corruption, 17 cases of incest and 27 cases of seduction. These are just the penal offences. In fact, the number is much higher.



# Trafficking and exploitation

This programme is a stage of a more complex project to combat trafficking in children for sexual exploitation in Europe, carried out by ECPAT Europe Law Enforcement Group. The implementation of an international programme, based on carrying out information sessions and refresher training for the specialists in the field at multi-disciplinary and inter-institutional levels, provides the opportunity for an effective cooperation of the institutions and organizations in the field.

The strategies for the project implementation were adapted to the **twinning** concept, respectively cooperation between two partners (one country from Eastern Europe and one from Western Europe) who share the responsibility and expertise in the implementation of the programme. In the first stage, 20 countries were identified, the twinning country for Romania being France.

The refresher training courses are held in every East-European country (Albania, Belarus, Bulgaria, Estonia, Moldova, Romania, Russia, Ukraine and Czech Republic) and along the programme implementation a manual for the specialists will be drafted according to the social context and the institutional framework in every region.

**The direct beneficiaries of the project** are social assistance institutions and NGOs providing assistance to the children victims of trafficking or to the children at risk, law



enforcement institutions (police, border police), governmental and non-governmental agencies.

The training manual for the specialists that aims at improving the knowledge in preventing and combating trafficking in children for sexual exploitation is currently under drafting. In this respect, the first 20 participants in the training sessions **“Training of the policemen and social workers on the rights and protection of the child victims of the trafficking for sexual exploitation”** were selected.

## The Code of Conduct for the Protection of Children from Trafficking and Sexual Exploitation in Travel and Tourism

The project, an initiative of **ECPAT Sweden (End Child Prostitution and Trafficking)**, is a set of six criteria initially elaborated by a group of Scandinavian tour-operators with the support of the Council of Ministers of the Scandinavian Countries and the World Tourism Organization (WTO). 250 signatories (hotel chains, professional associations, tour-operators) from 23 countries have adopted the Code of Conduct until now.

In line with the programmes for combating trafficking, exploitation, child abuse and neglect, **Salvați Copiii** (an affiliated member of ECPAT network) in partnership with the Ministry of Administration and Interior – Institute for Crime Prevention and Research, Romanian Hotel Industry Federation and National Tourism Agencies' Association implement the Code of Conduct project in Romania with financial support from OSCE

and Austrian Development Agency through the NGO “respect” Austria. The novelty and originality of the programme consist of the direct involvement of the private sector in the implementation of a project in partnership with a non-governmental organization.

In Romania, the Code of Conduct was officially adopted during a round table organized in May 2005.

The first signatories – Sofitel and Golden Tulip Hotels, Romanian Hotel Industry Federation and National Tourism Agencies' Association – committed themselves to adopt and implement all the six criteria of the Code in their current activities.

15,000 tourists and the personnel working in 10 hotels and tourist villas received information materials during the campaign carried out by **Salvați Copiii** on 1–15 August 2005.

# Services for the victims of trafficking in human beings

The social and poor economic conditions a high number of families face in Romania, as well as visa lifting for the Romanian citizens are part of the context that determines migration of labour force abroad. Parents' negative perception of the opportunities for the social success in Romania is the factor that most often leads to the exposure, especially of children and adolescents, to the hazards of trafficking in human beings.

Implemented with International Labour Organization – The International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (ILO-IPEC) support, the programme started in April 2005 and will be completed in May 2006. It aims at preventing re-trafficking, providing rehabilitation and long-term reintegration of the children/young victims of trafficking by improving the quality of the services provided in Iași, Botoșani, Giurgiu counties and Bucharest. At local level, it aims at strengthening the intervention capacity of the representatives of governmental institutions and NGOs working with this segment of beneficiaries and of the Sub-Group for Preventing and Combating Trafficking in Children in the implementation of the National Plan of Action for Preventing and Combating Trafficking in Children. Activities are carried out in two Salvați Copiii counselling centres in Bucharest and Iași and in three transit centres in Bucharest (Sector 2), Iași, Botoșani and Giurgiu.

In 2005, 89 children victims of trafficking benefited from the services provided within this programme: evaluation and psychological counselling, social and legal counselling, health care services, school reintegration in the formal education and enrolment in vocational training.

## International Cases/ Separated Children

The “International Cases” programme started in 1991 based on a collaboration convention concluded in 1990 between Salvați Copiii and the Secretariat General of the International Social Service and its branches in all the countries. Thus, Salvați Copiii has become the correspondent for Romania of the International Social Service and it implements programmes in the context of the specific social problems for ISS – individual and/or family social problems that appear as a result of individual or human groups' movement. 41 social inquiries were performed and the contacts between different social services abroad and Romanian citizens were facilitated.



The most exposed to trafficking are children/adolescents aged between 14 and 18 years from families with socio-economic problems (disorganized, abusing, poor families, families with alcoholic parents, a low education level), sexually exploited children, victims of internal and external trafficking, child labourers.

## Reducing vulnerability to trafficking

The programme started in April 2005 in partnership with Asociația Alternative Sociale (Social Alternatives Association) with ILO-IPEC and UNICEF funding. By establishing **youth centres** in the communities in Bucharest, Iași, Botoșani and Giurgiu, Salvați Copiii aims to contribute to reducing the vulnerability of children/youth to trafficking through family and psychological counselling, support for school reintegration, information and sensitizing on the trafficking related risks, more opportunities for the leisure time for children and youth, identifying the good practices in preventing trafficking.

### Youth Centres:

- Bucharest: at the **Educational Centre** from Academiei St. no.3-5, at **School Group “Nichita Stănescu”** in Sector 3 and at **Technical College for Food Industry “Dumitru Moțoc”**, Sector 5;
- Giurgiu county: 2 youth centres at **School with 1<sup>st</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grades in Bucșani** and at **School no. 6 “Savin Popescu”** in Giurgiu city.

### Outcomes:

During the period April 2005 - February 2006, **103** children (victims of trafficking and children at risk to be trafficked), **20** peer educators and **37** members of the support groups benefited from the services provided by the youth centres.



# Activities by the

Neamţ local branch implemented the “Second Chance” programme by means of which 17 children and youth aged between 9 and 21 years, who were working in the street and dropped out from school, were provided with counselling with a view to their enrolment in the mainstream education system.

By opening the Day Centre for child labourers, 25 children from the centre and other 25 children from Mureş county were provided with specialized services.

Hunedoara local branch continued the activities of the Day Care Centre in Petrila that has as main objective to develop the skills for an independent life for the HIV/AIDS children from Valea Jiului. 25 children benefited from individual psychological counselling and weekly educational activities. The parents of the children included in the programme received psychological counselling, including counselling on revealing the diagnosis. Other 80 children benefited from educational support.

In collaboration with other member institutions of S.O.S BANAT! Coalition, the volunteers of Timiş local branch took action to support the hundreds of people from the most affected villages (Foeni, Ionel, Otelec, Cruceni) by water floods through a constant campaign to raise funds, materials, food, clothes and to distribute them to those affected by the floods. A diagnosis and psychological intervention programme for the children from the areas affected by the floods was also initiated. In 2005, Timiş local branch continued the “Soul Friends” programme that aimed at preventing social exclusion of children and youth with the Down syndrome.

Within the Education for Health programme, an Open Lesson for the students in the 2<sup>nd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grades was held in 28 schools where the Educational Manual was introduced.

Dolj local branch implemented, in collaboration with non-governmental organizations from Austria and Italy, the project “Education for Adoptive Parents” funded by the National Socrates Agency. A Good Practices Manual was drafted in the framework of this project.

Arges local branch organized, at “Mihai Eminescu” School, a performance of a sketch with the participation of 50 parents and over 100 children when the campaign to prevent violence against children was launched.

On the occasion of the World Day against HIV/AIDS (1 December), the volunteers of Braşov local branch organized debates and information sessions on HIV/AIDS in two high-schools within the activity “Lesson for Life” and a street campaign for the distribution of information materials to over 3,000 persons. As a result of this campaign, the number of persons (most of them high-school students) who went to the HIV Testing and Counselling Centre significantly increased.



# local branches

One of the programmes with a considerable impact among both children and specialists was “Counselling for the child victim of abuse and trafficking” implemented in Suceava, Rădăuți and Fălticeni. 179 children and 57 parents received counselling. The programme was implemented in partnership with the Regional Centre for Combating Organized Crime and Anti-Drug, Social Assistance Department, City Halls of Suceava, Rădăuți and Fălticeni, Police County Inspectorate, Court of Law and the Tribunal in Suceava, County School Inspectorate.

The organizational development of Iasi local branch in 2005 facilitated the provision of psychosocial counselling services to a double number of beneficiaries. The Mobile School, a new programme, is an educational tool, technically and pedagogically adapted to the reality of economically exploited children who are taught writing, reading, arithmetic and how to be aware of the hazards in the street. The educational package is conceived for different development levels and provides the opportunity to work simultaneously with a high number of children from different districts of the city, as well as from the neighbouring communities.

In 2005, Vaslui local branch carried out 8 street campaigns to distribute information materials in 14 schools. Over 2,250 students and 80 teachers participated in. Children from the residential care centres in Huși, Negrești and Vaslui were informed and trained on HIV/AIDS.

The young volunteers from Galați local branch initiated a fundraising campaign for the children affected from water floods in the county. Started exclusively by their own means, the volunteers succeeded to make happy over 50 children and their families by collecting toys, school supplies, food and clothes.

The Counselling Centre Târgoviște aims at developing the independent life skills of 80 HIV positive children from Dâmbovița county. Trips were organized for the children included in the programme to Voinești (Manga), Dealu Monastery, Zoo, Antipa Museum, Village Museum – Bucharest, Sinaia (Peleş Castle), Curtea de Argeș. The volunteers of the local branch organized four contests on different themes: painting, sketches, general knowledge, sports (football, table tennis) where other children also participated in.

In 2005, Constanța local branch carried out activities within the programme for drug abuse prevention among youth, getting involved in the information campaign “**The sea, our only addiction**”, implemented at the seaside.

The volunteers of the local branch also supported the children affected by water floods in Tuzla, starting the programme “Defending children's rights NOW”, implemented in partnership with the School in Tuzla.

Within the Education for Health programme funded by Global Fund, Bucharest local branch continued in 2005 the activities to support children and teachers in collaboration with kindergartens and schools from Bucharest, Ilfov, Teleorman, Giurgiu and Prahova counties. Bucharest local branch was among the nominees for the best institution that carries out activities for children at the JETIX 2005 awards.



# Protection and education

## SOCIAL AND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE, SCHOOL REINTEGRATION AND PSYCHOLOGICAL COUNSELLING FOR THE ECONOMICALLY EXPLOITED CHILDREN

The transition period determined social and economic difficulties with direct consequences upon children and their families. In the context of an increasing poverty of the population, both in rural and urban areas, children, either obliged or not by their parents, got involved more and more in economic activities that are not always according to the provisions of the law.

The National Institute for Statistics estimated that about 70,000 children were involved in the worst forms of child labour in 2003.

The activities carried out are structured on the following directions:

### DIRECT SUPPORT FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

The social assistance component consists of activities to assess the situation of the children and their families by performing social inquiries, drafting the individual intervention plans, providing services and monitoring the situation with a view to achieving school and family/community reintegration of the children or integration in child care institutions, when the

### OBJECTIVE

The programme aims to progressively eliminate child labour by providing social assistance services, school reintegration, psychological counselling and health care services for child labourers. Olosu, the activities carried out contribute to developing responsible attitudes and behaviours as concerns health condition.

A second element is focused on strengthening the capacity of the key governmental and non-governmental bodies to prevent and combat child labour.

The programme was implemented in Bucharest, Iași, Argeș, Galați, Mureș, Suceava, Timiș, Bistrița-Năsăud, Neamț and Dolj.

case. The services provided are: social, legal and psychological counselling, obtaining identity documents, material support, facilitating the access to different institutions, accompanying the children to health care units, education for health.

An important component refers to organizing non-formal education classes for the working children with a view to their future integration in the mainstream education.

In 2005, the social assistance services targeted 800 children and their parents (345 children from Bucharest and 55 from the other 9 counties mentioned above).

285 children were integrated in the educational programmes carried out by Salvați Copiii in the **educational centres** from Bucharest, Iași, Craiova, Târgu-Mureș, Bistrița and Focșani; 205 children received health care services within the programme **“Preventing HIV/AIDS transmission among street children and Roma communities”** funded by the Global Fund to Fight HIV/AIDS, TB and Malaria. 251 children included in the programme were monitored (90 in Bucharest and 161 in the local branches) in order to ensure the continuity of the intervention and to prevent a new crisis period (school drop out, family abandonment, STIs).





### **CAPACITY BUILDING FOR THE PARTNER INSTITUTIONS**

In 2005, 221 specialists from the partner Directorates General for Social Assistance and Child Protection, NGOs, schools and health care units were trained on child labour, social reintegration of working children, psychological assistance, medical and legal aspects. Five courses were held in the framework of the USAID – World Learning programme “Psychological counselling services for the economically exploited children” and two courses in the framework of the National Interest Programme PIN 4 “Preventing and combating child labour”.

Within the PIN 4 project, Local Intersectoral Teams to prevent and combat child labour were established in Mureş, Bistrița-Năsăud and Vrancea counties. Salvați Copiii is also a member of the Local Intersectoral Teams established in Bucharest, in Sectors 1, 2 and 5.

Local action groups were established in 31 vulnerable rural and urban communities identified in the above-mentioned counties. Their representatives and the members of the Intersectoral Teams participated in training courses on child labour and identified 84 child labourers.

### **INFORMATION AND AWARENESS RAISING**

The following materials were produced: 2,500 leaflets to present this service, 1,600 posters with the message “Combat child labour!” and 2,500 brochures for the social workers and children on infection with HIV and other STIs. These materials were disseminated to the partner institutions, schools and the less favoured communities where the beneficiaries of the programme come from.

## EDUCATIONAL CENTRES

In 2005, two educational centres were opened in Bucharest the **Educational Centre “Mareşal Averescu”** in partnership with the Directorate General for Social Assistance and Child Protection in Sector 1 and School no. 1 “Sfinţii Voievozi” aiming at school integration/reintegration of the children, and the **Educational Centre “School after School”**, within School no 71 “Iovan Ducici”, aiming at preventing school drop-out.

**Educational Centres** were also established and equipped in **Târgu Mureş, Focşani** and **Bistriţa** in the framework of the National Interest Programme (PIN4) “Preventing and combating child labour” funded by the National Authority for the Protection of Child Rights. Besides the existing funding, **Salvaţi Copiii** contributed with its own funds (from fundraisings) to equip the educational centres.

In 2005, the activities in the educational centres in Bucharest (Educational Centre Academiei) and Iaşi continued.

Salvaţi Copiii also continued to provide support and to monitor the educational centres opened in 2004 in Bucharest and Craiova in the framework of the National Interest Programme PIN 379, centres that were taken over by the County Directorates for Social Assistance and Child Protection.

Since her mother died, Ioana has been living with her grandmother. She did not want to live with her father because she did not agree with the activities he was involved in, many times on the edge between legal and illegal.

Although she is 13, she has never attended school, her grandmother and other relatives believing that girls should stay at home to become good housewives.

Because her grandmother is very old, Ioana has to deal with all household chores and take care of her younger siblings.

Ioana wanted so much to learn how to read and write and she succeeded in convincing this by herself.

She came to Salvaţi Copiii after she had found out about the educational centre from other children from the district. Social workers succeeded to convince Ioana's grandmother, after many discussions to let her attend school. Ioana is now in the 1<sup>st</sup> grade; she is enrolled in the “Second Chance” programme in order to graduate 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade during the school year 2005-2006. Ioana hopes that she will succeed to complete primary education within 2 years and start secondary education as soon as possible.



In order to support Ioana, the representatives of our organization facilitated her access to health care services, provided legal counselling in order to clarify the situation related to her identity documents and psychological counselling.

## IMPACTUL PROGRAMULUI

In 2005, the research “**Knowledge and Behaviours regarding HIV/AIDS/STIs in less favoured communities**” was conducted to assess the changes occurred at the end of the first phase of the project “Preventing HIV/AIDS transmission among street children and Roma communities”. The report presents the findings in two different stages: the beginning and the end of the first phase of the project. Children's answers prove a considerable increase in the level of knowledge related to the sexually transmitted infections as well as changes as concerns behaviours.

The impact of the training courses held in 2004 was also assessed through short questionnaires applied to a part of the trained specialists. 84% stated they used, at the moment of the assessment, the knowledge and the techniques acquired.

## FUNDERS

The Festival of Christmas Trees, Global Fund to Fight HIV/AIDS, TB and Malaria, USAID – World Learning, Save the Children Finland, National Authority for the Protection of Child Rights, Cora Hipermarket.

# Roma children's rights

Roma children still face discrimination and intolerance in their everyday life, including in schools. Changing the mentalities related to this ethnic group is a long process and a multicultural and intercultural education in this respect should start from an early age, in order to give children the opportunity to know each other better and respect diversity.

Teachers should also change their behaviour and attitude towards Roma children, in order to avoid discrimination and intolerance in schools. Their continued information and training is a priority for the Ministry of Education and Research and it is based on the collaboration with Salvați Copiii. It is also needed to create a child-friendly environment in schools and kindergartens, where Roma children to come with pleasure, to be valued and respected.

## OBJECTIVES AND PRIORITIES OF THE PROGRAMME

The objectives of the project are to change mentalities towards Roma minority, to provide equal opportunities to children in their preparation for the adult life and to promote the observance of children's rights in schools. Nine series of courses were organized for 400 teachers, schoolmasters and educators from all over the country.

Five kindergarten groups were organized for children from disadvantaged categories, with a focus on rural areas, and had in view children's preparation for school, developing their skills to cope with the education process requirements at a similar level with other children.

Salvați Copiii initiated in 2005, with PHARE financial support, a research in five Roma communities in order to present to the authorities proposals to improve the quality of life for this disadvantaged category. Training courses were organized in the framework of the project for teachers, mediators and volunteers from the 5 counties, included in the programme, as well as information sessions for 11 journalists from national and local press in order to understand Roma children's problems. The research was conducted in three communities (Balta Arsă, Coltău and Mangalia).

## DIRECT BENEFICIARIES:

Roma children and children from other disadvantaged categories over 200 children in kindergartens and about 200 children in schools;

Over 100 parents who received counselling;

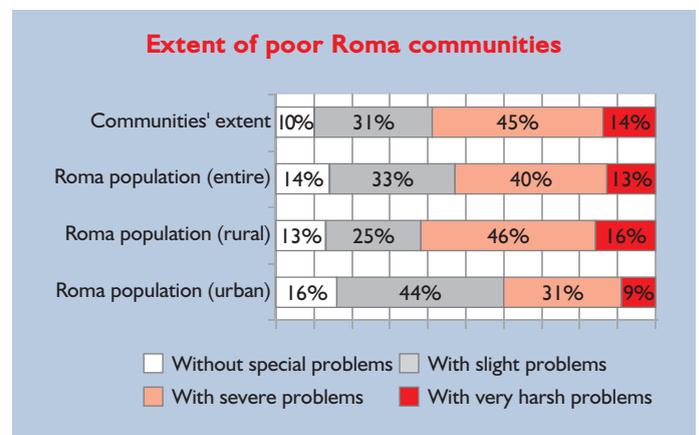
About 400 teachers working with Roma children (from all the counties).



## PRIORITIES OF THE PROGRAMME:

Five kindergartens: Mangalia, Plenița (Dolj), Valea Bădenilor (Argeș), Glina (Ilfov) and Nușfalău (Sălaj) – the last two in collaboration with Community Development Agency “Împreună” (Together);

Training courses included participants from all the counties and were held in Năvodari, Costinești and Sânmartin (Bihor); Research on the situation of Roma children in five Roma communities (Balta Arsă/Botoșani, Coltău/Maramureș, Mangalia, Calvini/Buzău and Glina/Ilfov).



Source: "Roma communities from Romania. A map of community poverty through PROROMI research", National Agency for Roma community; <http://www.anr.gov.ro>; March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2006

# Integration of the refugee and separated children in the Romanian society

The refugee children living in Romania confront with many difficulties related with the lack of social services to facilitate their better integration in the Romanian social and cultural environments and a complete adaptation to the education system. Salvați Copiii provides access to social counselling services and guidance for the asylum seekers, facilitates the integration of refugee children in the Romanian society and their access to education and assists separated children.

The beneficiaries of the programme are supported in the integration process in the Romanian education system, their school attendance is monitored and their parents are provided with counselling related to children's school participation. Recreational activities are also organized together with Romanian children: visits to museums, theatre, and camps.

In 2005, Salvați Copiii continued to be the implementation partner of the **United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees** for the activities for refugee children.

## ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT:

55 children and 30 parents were provided with social counselling; Salvați Copiii participated, as a child protection expert, in the elaboration of the Guide of Good Practices on Protection of Separated Children; Salvați Copiii continues to promote Children's Diversity Club that aims at promoting friendship between the young refugees and Romanian young people through culture, customs and traditions. Workshops on oriental dances, Arab language, Turkish language were organized for



*My name is Danijela, I am 10 years old, I am from Yugoslavia and I live with my parents and my elder brother. Here, in Romania, I go to School no. 120 and I am in the 4th grade. In my country, I felt very well together with my grandparents and my cousins. We left Yugoslavia because of the war. I like Romania as much as my country. At school, you can learn many languages and I like this. At my age is good to play, to learn and the best when you are young is to be very lucky.*

30 Romanian children and 20 refugee children and the "teachers" for these workshops were young refugees; 42 refugee children were integrated in the education system and were supported by providing them with school supplies and other necessary books for school; 47 children participated in recreational activities both in Children's Rooms from the shelter and out of the shelter.

## ChildNet INDEPENDENT LIFE SKILLS

The programme aimed at providing the best conditions for deinstitutionalization, creating and developing skills for an independent life and facilitating professional integration of children and young people in the child care system. It was addressed to 300 beneficiaries from 6 cities (Iași, Galați, Piatra Neamț, Vaslui, Dâmbovița, Bucharest - Sector 1).

### MAIN ACTIVITIES:

Vocational courses according to the demand on the labour market and individual skills;  
Courses on economic education and entrepreneurship;  
Courses for an independent life (information on HIV/AIDS, STIs, drugs);

Electronic newsletters (on a quarterly basis);  
Selection and training of the volunteers for peer relations with beneficiaries;  
Psychological and job counselling services.

### MAJOR OUTCOMES

240 young people were deinstitutionalized, 300 young people benefited from 37 independent life skills and entrepreneurship courses. 29 young people were admitted to universities, 70 young people found a job, 70 social workers benefited from training courses on independent life skills to enable them to further work with the young people who have to leave the care institutions.

# Lobby and advocacy

Salvați Copiii is a member or is permanently represented in the following structures:

- The Executive Group of the High Level Group for the Romanian Children;
- National Steering Committee for the Prevention and Elimination of Child Labour;
- National Committee Anti-AIDS;
- Working Sub-Group for the Coordination of the Activity for Preventing and Combating Trafficking in Children ;
- Inter-Ministerial Working Group for the Coordination and Evaluation of the Activity for Preventing and Combating Trafficking in Human Beings;
- Inter-Ministerial Group for the Social Integration of Youth from Institutions;
- Working Group within the Romanian Adoptions Office.

In order to ensure programmes development, Salvați Copiii has established partnerships with the Romanian Government, OSCE, UNDP, UNICEF, International Labour Office International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour, International Organization for Migration, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, Delegation of the European Commission to Romania, International Save the Children Alliance, USAID and others.

## ACTIVITIES

In collaboration with the Center Partnership for Equality and Step by Step, Salvați Copiii approached the Prime-Minister of Romania, the Ministry of Public Finance and Ministry of Labour, Social Solidarity and Family so that the allowance for maternal risk leave and the leave for taking care of sick children should not to be considered incomes that are subject to taxation. The Ministry of Finance considered the position of the civil society and took back the decision related to taxation;

Salvați Copiii, together with other civil society organizations, took a stand as concerns the draft law promoted by the Ministry of Labour, Social Solidarity and Family in June 2005 regarding the decrease of the allowance for taking care of children up to the age of 2 years from 85% of the average wage on national economy to 35%. The Ministry reconsidered its position and, beginning with 2006, mothers will receive an allowance to take care of children in amount of 8 million lei;

During the public debates on social assistance laws, organized by the Ministry of Labour, Social Solidarity and Family (MLSSF), Salvați Copiii proposed a single system for the accreditation of the social services, based on the principles of equality between public and private services and on promotion of the public-private partnership. Salvați Copiii asked to MLSSF, as well as to the National Authority



for the Protection of Child Rights, for a unitary regulation and a global approach of all the aspects that regulate the non-governmental sector (from establishment, accreditation and licensing to funding, facilities, granting public utility status); Salvați Copiii pointed out the necessity to **draft a strategy in the social field** to delimit the State Social Insurance Budget from the State Budget, in order to ensure the social welfare;

Salvați Copiii made proposals as concerns the legal nature of the funding contracts, unrestricted access to public funds, including the competition principles of the market social economy. It also outlined that the aim is the beneficiaries' satisfaction and for this reason the irredeemable funding should be granted through public bidding, in the spirit of a free and honest competition, without posing any constraints;

Salvați Copiii proposals on the regulation of granting public utility status for associations and foundations to respond to the need to have a professional and specialized non-governmental sector were sent to the Chamber of Deputies and to the Civil Society Development Foundation.

## LEGAL ASSISTANCE

After the coming into force of Law 272/2004, the number of requests for legal counselling and assistance, addressed to Salvați Copiii increased, compared to the previous year. There were registered very diverse situation of child rights violations (from the right to an identity to serious forms of sexual abuse). Salvați Copiii provided legal counselling for 60 cases. In certain situations, direct approaches of the authorized institutions were necessary, as well as the support of the mass-media.

*During all the debates on draft laws, Salvați Copiii made proposals in line with the provisions of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and particularly with Article 3 of CRC that in all actions concerning children, whether undertaken by courts of law, administrative authorities or legislative bodies, the best interests of the child shall be a primary consideration.*

# Campaigns carried out by Salvați Copiii in 2005

## SALVAȚI COPIII ROMÂNIA SUPPORTED THE CHILDREN AFFECTED BY FLOODS

Salvați Copiii's response to the difficult situations people affected by the floods confronted with had mainly in view to provide support to children from the affected families. Activities were focused on providing material and nutritional support, as well as psychological and emotional support for those that had to overcome the traumatizing consequences of the floods. In the days immediately after the floods that affected Banat region, Salvați Copiii coordinated many humanitarian interventions in order to respond to the immediate needs of the families affected by the dramatic situation of their houses and households, destroyed by the floods. The representatives of our organization joined the coalition "SOS Banat!" (Solidarity with the victims of the floods in Banat!).

### THE CAMPAIGN "ROMANIA DROWNED IN TEARS"

Salvați Copiii and *Evenimentul Zilei* (daily newspaper) started a fundraising campaign (EUR 53,000) for the rehabilitation of the school and kindergarten in Nănești (Vrancea county) that were seriously affected by floods.

The works will be continued in the spring of 2006 by renovating the outside walls of the school and building a sports ground.

### CAMPS FOR CHILD VICTIMS OF FLOODS OFFERED BY SALVAȚI COPIII

During 1-15 August, Salvați Copiii and the Romanian Presidency organized four camps to the seaside for over 120 children affected by the floods in Vrancea county. The recreational programme aimed at helping the children to overcome much easier the traumatizing experiences they passed through by carrying out interactive activities.



### THE CAMPAIGN "CHILDREN ALSO CARE"

Salvați Copiii, in partnership with the High Level Group for the Romanian Children, National Television - TVR I and Ministry of Education and Research launched on 21 May 2005 the campaign "Children also care" that aimed at collecting school supplies and books for the children affected by floods in Timiș county. Beside the activities to collect school supplies and books, coordinated at national level by the School Inspectorate of Bucharest, Salvați Copiii was also involved in collecting teaching materials for the students in all the 15 local branches.

### THE CAMPAIGN "MONTH OF OPEN HEARTS"

Cora Hipermarket, Salvați Copiii and International Labour Organization - The International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (ILO-IPEC) launched, on 4 May 2005, the campaign "Month of Open Hearts". This humanitarian activity aimed at providing support to economically exploited children identified by the "Social and School Reintegration Programme for Working Street Children".

The amount raised (455,000,000 lei) contributed to supporting children at risk to drop out from school or who dropped out from school because of early entering work. Salvați Copiii volunteers were present, all along the campaign, to provide the clients of CORA Hipermarket with information about the activities that will be carried out as a result of their contribution to prevent and combat child labour.



# Well-to-do people make the world better!

## THE FESTIVAL OF CHRISTMAS TREES 2005

Already a tradition of the winter social calendar, The Festival of Christmas Trees is the most important fundraising event organised by Salvați Copiii, that reunited in the past five years outstanding representatives of the companies, diplomacy, culture, public life and media concerned to help improving the situation of children from disadvantaged categories.

The organization of this event is coordinated by a Honorary Board chaired by H.E. Svante Kilander, the Swedish Ambassador, a dedicated supporter of the Festival from its first edition. Some of the personalities and companies involved in this project are: Mrs. Mihaela Geoană (President "Renașterea" Foundation), Mrs. Ileana Pescariu (Managing Partner, Publicis Dialog), Mrs. Corina Bârlădeanu (Director, 2activePR), Mrs. Veronica Savanciuc (Lowe & Partners, President IAA Romania), Mr. Pierre Poupard (UNICEF Representative for Romania), Mr. Patrick Gelin (President, General Director BRD - Groupe Société Générale), Mrs. Rodica Moise (National Programme Manager, ILO-IPEC), Mr. Liviu Sfrija (General Director, Henkel Romania), Mr. Dan Moraru (CEO, BBDO Group Romania) and Mrs. Tereza Munteanu (General Director, Y&R).

Famous fashion designers and well-known companies recreated the Christmas Tree concept: Andreea Raicu and Irina Schrotter, Doina Levintza, Elena Lășlean, Irina Marinescu, Larisa Claru, Leon Mocanu (fine arts artist), Rita Mureșan, Romanitza Iovan, Wilhelmina Arz, Junior Achievement Romania, IBM Romania, Oxette, Togo Design and Twins Studio. For the first time, Salvați Copiii volunteers created a Christmas Tree for the 2005 edition.

The host of the gala evening, held at the Palace of the Parliament, was the TV star Andi Moisescu, who led the auction together with H.E. Mr. Svante Kilander. The guests were also entertained with a special recital performance by Marius Mihalache.



Many stars, directors of agencies and politicians presented the trees created specially for this event: Andreea Esca, Corina Dănilă, Andreea Raicu, Ioana Moldovan, Crina Matei, Cristi Iacob, Mona Muscă, Gianina Corondan, Corina Bârlădeanu, Larisa Claru, Dan Moraru, Veronica Savanciuc. Their involvement and enthusiasm, as well as the designers' creativity, convinced the representatives of important companies to bid EUR 75,400 for the 15 Christmas Trees. The record of the auction was held again by the Christmas tree created by Doina Levintza, made up of pieces of crystal, which was sold for EUR 14,000.

EUR 7,400 was raised from the raffle tickets sale, where attractive prizes were given: ornamental objects, cosmetics, garments and accessories, beauty sessions at exclusivist beauty centers etc.



The main sponsors of the Festival of Christmas Trees 2005 were: **Artima**, **Henkel Bautechnik** and **Zapp**, while 14 companies participated as supporting sponsors: UniversAll, American Express Bank, Tiriac Bank, Billa, BRD-Groupe Société Générale, Carrefour, Ericsson, Ford, Hyundai, Hewlett Packard, Mercedes-Benz, Microsoft, SAAB, Ultex Țândărei. Over 70 companies supported this event with products and services. They donated before the event EUR 72,000 in cash and over EUR 30,000 in kind (products and services). Thus, the total amount raised was **EUR 155,000**. The materials used for this event were produced and printed with the support of Proximity Romania and Best Print.

Salvați Copiii will use the funds raised to continue the programme for the social reintegration of the working children by supporting 4 Educational Centres in Bucharest (2 centres), Iași and Craiova. 200 children will benefit from the services provided in the framework of the project: educational, recreational, sports and socializing activities, artistic activities (theatre, music and dance), medical assistance, emergency support in order to prevent children's living in the street, legal counselling.

# Financial Report 2005

<b>I. INCOMES</b>		<b>AMOUNT (EUR)</b>
		<b>1,933,944</b>
1	Global Fund for Combating HIV/AIDS, TB and Malaria	587,123
2	National Authority for the Protection of Child Rights	139,811
3	The Festival of Christmas Trees 2004/ 2005	137,595
4	Save the Children Sweden	135,117
5	USAID / World Learning	96,486
6	Lubricants UK	81,911
7	Delegation of the European Commission in Romania	62,194
8	Ringier Romania – Evenimentul Zilei	49,215
9	“Tucker’s Friends” Foundation USA	47,907
10	Individuals from Norway	41,625
11	International Labour Office International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (ILO-IPEC)	37,600
12	Save the Children Austria	30,273
13	O.S.C.E.	27,768
14	“Social Alternatives” Association	27,233
15	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees	24,143
16	Leonardo da Vinci Programme	22,549
17	Henkel Romania	20,037
18	Save the Children Finland	19,200
19	Agency for Governmental Strategies	18,966
20	Individuell Manniskohjelp	17,146
21	UNICEF	14,395
22	Hipermarket CORA	12,584
23	International Save the Children Alliance	11,090
24	Collecting boxes and 1% of the tax on global income	83,060
25	VAT reimbursement	59,111
26	Membership fees, donations, sponsorships	54,713
27	Other incomes	60,621
28	Bank interests	14,471

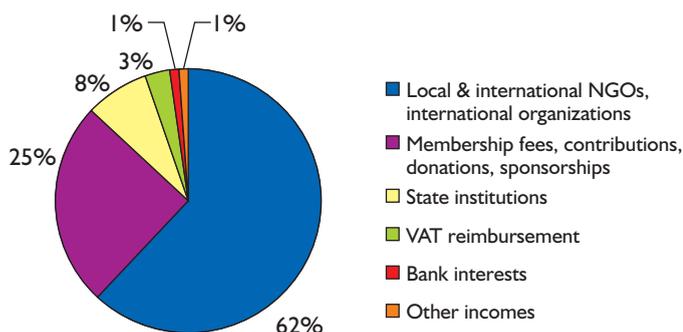
<b>II EXPENDITURES</b>		<b>AMOUNT (EUR)</b>
		<b>1,813,208</b>
<b>A. PROJECTS</b>		<b>1,657,780</b>
1.	Education for children in difficult circumstances	1,045,898
2.	Specialized services for children victims of trafficking and abuse	351,883
3.	Petrila Day Care Centre	118,888
4.	Support for the victims of the floods	54,302
5.	Promoting UN Convention through Child and youth participation	50,772
6.	Centre of Information, Documentation and Research on the Rights of the Child	36,037
<b>B. INFORMATION - COMMUNICATION</b>		<b>45,948</b>
<b>C. ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT</b>		<b>29,793</b>
<b>D. FUNDRAISING</b>		<b>45,019</b>
<b>E. ADMINISTRATION</b>		<b>34,668</b>

<b>I. INCOMES: 1,933,944 EUR, out of which:</b>		
Non-profit organizations from the country and abroad and international organizations	1,203,290	62 %
Membership fees, contributions, donations, sponsorships	490,681	25 %
State institutions	158,777	8 %
VAT reimbursement	59,111	3 %
Bank interests	14,471	1 %
Other incomes	7,614	1 %

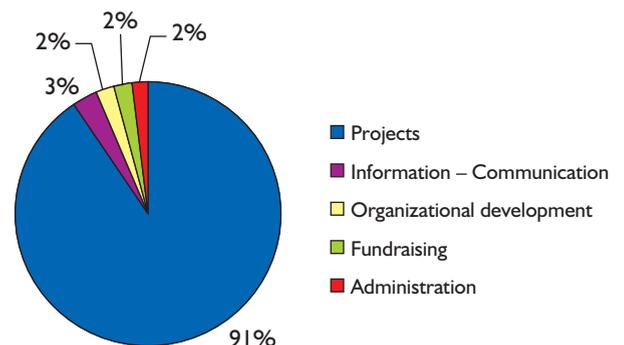
<b>II. EXPENDITURES: 1,813,208 EUR, out of which:</b>		
A. PROJECTS	1,657,780	91 %
B. INFORMATION-COMMUNICATION	45,948	3 %
C. ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT	29,793	2 %
D. FUNDRAISING	45,019	2 %
E. ADMINISTRATION	34,668	2 %

In 2005, there were obtained incomes in kind (products and services) in amount of EUR 110,752

**INCOMES**



**EXPENDITURES**



## EDUCATION FOR CHILDREN IN DIFFICULT CIRCUMSTANCES:

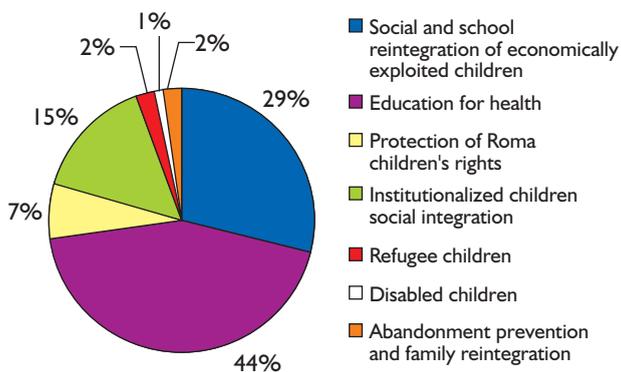
EUR 1,045,898, out of which:

1. Social and school reintegration of working street children	304,065	29 %
2. HIVpositive children / Education for health	462,596	44 %
3. Protection of Roma Children's rights	69,474	7 %
4. Institutionalized children - Social integration, vocational training	162,190	15 %
5. Refugee children	24,563	2 %
6. Disabled children	4,085	1 %
7. Abandonment prevention and family reintegration	18,925	2 %

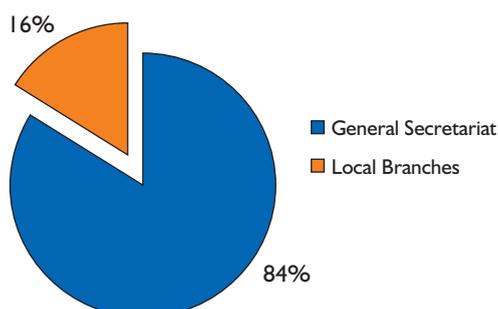
## SITUATION OF THE IMMOVABLE ASSETS (EUR)

IMMOVABLE ASSETS	BALANCE ON 01/01/2005	INCREASES	DECREASES	BALANCE ON 31/12/2005
<b>TOTAL GENERAL (A+B)</b>	<b>425,381</b>	<b>297,977</b>	<b>237,947</b>	<b>485,411</b>
<b>A. GENERAL SECRETARIAT (I+II+III)</b>	<b>294,161</b>	<b>267,618</b>	<b>151,617</b>	<b>410,162</b>
<b>B. LOCAL BRANCHES (I+II+III)</b>	<b>131,220</b>	<b>30,359</b>	<b>86,330</b>	<b>75,249</b>
<b>I. INTANGIBLE ASSETS</b>	<b>896</b>		<b>896</b>	-
A. GENERAL SECRETARIAT	-	-	-	-
B. LOCAL BRANCHES	896	-	896	-
<b>II. TANGIBLE ASSETS</b>	<b>424,485</b>	<b>73,778</b>	<b>98,075</b>	<b>400,188</b>
A. GENERAL SECRETARIAT	294,161	43,419	12,641	324,939
B. LOCAL BRANCHES	130,324	30,359	85,434	75,249
<b>III. FINANCIAL IMMOVABLES</b>	-	<b>224,199</b>	<b>138,976</b>	<b>85,223</b>
A. GENERAL SECRETARIAT	-	224,199	138,976	85,223
B. LOCAL BRANCHES	-	-	-	-

### Education for children in difficult circumstances



### Total funds Salvați Copiii Romania





[www.salvaticopiii.ro](http://www.salvaticopiii.ro)

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April 2006

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**Salvați Copiii team thanks to all its volunteers, partners, sponsors and donors.**

“ BRD - Groupe Société Générale appreciates the efforts made by Salvați Copiii to improve the situation of disadvantaged children in Romania. Assuming the quality of citizen of the community, our bank has joined, since 2002, the social responsibility initiatives promoted by Salvați Copiii within a partnership that proved its effectiveness and value for the society. ”



Adela Pascu, Secretary General  
of BRD-Groupe Société Générale

“ The projects developed in partnership with Salvați Copiii are our heartfelt projects, which we have always worked on with the professionalism acquired during the long years of the Romanian advertising market growth, with all the talent we were endowed with; but we are adding to these projects even something more, that we probably do not offer to anyone else to such extent: consciousness. ”

Y&R Staff

## Partners

National Authority for the Protection of Child Rights, Swedish Save the Children, Save the Children Finland, Delegation of the European Commission to Romania, International Save the Children Alliance, Ministry of Education and Research, Ministry of Health and Public Health Departments, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Administration and Interior / General Inspectorate of the Border Police, Passports Directorate, Ministry of Public Function, UNIDEA Foundation, Ministry of Labour, Social Solidarity and Family, Labour Inspection, "Tucker's Friends" Foundation U.S., ILO-IPEC, IOM, "Leonardo da Vinci" – Delegation of the European Commission Brussels, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, Romanian National Council for Refugees, National Office for Refugees – Ministry of Administration and Interior, Romanian Forum for Refugees and Migrants, Organization of the Refugee Women in Romania, USAID / World Learning, Save the Children Austria, Smurfit Charitable Foundation Monaco, Henkel Romania, Global March Against Child Labour, Save the Children Denmark, Save the Children Italy, Open Society Foundation East-East Program, UNICEF, Community Development Agency "Împreună" (Together), National Authority for Disabled Persons, Social Alternatives Association, US Embassy, Manni Tesse Foundation, Global Fund to Fight HIV/AIDS, TB and Malaria, Open Society Foundation, ECPAT (Netherlands & France), Romanian Fund for Social Development, Federation of the NGOs Active in Child Protection, European Council for Refugees and Exiles (ECRE), Romanian Association Anti-AIDS, Health Aid Romania, ProChild, Caritas Catholic Solidarity Association, "Zâmbete de copii" (Children's Smiles) Association Galați, Neghiniță Association Dambovița, Junior Achievement, Youth for Youth Foundation, Princess Margarita of Romania Foundation, Global Campaign for Education, EUROTIN, International Social Service – Italian Branch, Directorate General for Combating Organized Crime and Anti-Drug, National Agency Anti-Drug, Departments for Child Protection in Sectors 1, 2, 3, 4, 6 of Bucharest, County Departments for Child Protection in Iași, Botoșani, Bacău, Sibiu, Sălaj, Alba, Bihor, Vaslui, Dolj, Argeș, Dâmbovița, Brașov, Arad, Cluj, Giurgiu, Vrancea, Hunedoara, Satu Mare, Bistrița-Năsăud, Maramureș Neamț, Suceava, Galați, Timiș, Mureș, Harghita, Covasna, Caraș-Severin, County Police Inspectorates, National Confederation of Romanian Employers, Town Hall Petrila, School Group "Voievodul Mircea" Târgoviște, National Art Museum in Bucharest, National Agency for Camps and School Tourism, National Children's Palace in Bucharest, County Agencies for Employment, School Inspectorates, schools.

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Banca Comerciala Româna, Sucursala Plevnei  
Current Account: RO15RNCB0071011434790005  
Sponsorship Account: RO96 RNCB0071011434790002  
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