

**1. Name of the project:** Счастье быть в месте / Happiness is being together

**2. Project dates:** 2 years.

**3. Name of the organization** Brest Regional Development Fund. The main partner of the project is State Educational Institution "Secondary School No. 3 in Pinsk".

**4. Project goal:** To develop competencies and skills of schoolchildren with psychophysical development disorders, including those with autism spectrum disorders including them in various creative, sports and game activities while simultaneously shaping tolerant attitude towards people with special needs and encouraging their interaction with abled-bodied children, their parents and teachers.

**5. Project objectives:**

1) to integrate Pinsk schoolchildren with special needs, including those with autism spectrum disorder (at least 35 people), into society as its full members through interaction with abled-bodied children (at least 35 people) with the help of the specially developed system of inclusive activities;

2) to help parents of schoolchildren with special needs, including those with an autistic spectrum disorder, in Pinsk (at least 50 people) to discover their children's creative potential, encourage their self-realization, socialization and adaptation to life in the society through the acceptance of autism problems;

3) to encourage the parents of abled-bodied children (at least 200 parents) to form tolerant attitude towards pupils with autism spectrum disorders through social interaction on the basis of the State Educational Institution "Pinsk Secondary School No. 3";

4) to improve teachers' qualifications (30 people) by training them various effective methods of working with students with special needs, including the kids with autism spectrum disorder, and providing them with the necessary tools in their further practices.

**6. Target groups:**

1) children with special needs, including those with autism spectrum disorder (at least 35 kids) and their families; abled-bodied children (at least 35 kids) taught in special education classes and classes of integrated education in secondary schools in Pinsk;

2) parents of abled-bodied children (at least 200 people);

3) teachers (30 people).

**7 Brief description of the project:**

*Objective №1:* Sports event «The Robinsons of Polesye», Creative Studio "The Ark". Creating a collage "The Best School", Game "Past the clouds we'll find the stars", Theatre Lab «Storytime Theatre»

*Objective №2:* Training Cluster "Head-to-head with Autism" with the experts in the field of inclusive education and upbringing, Creative workshop "Learning by playing", Workshop "Destination Victory" with guest experts in the field of inclusive education and upbringing

*Objective №3:* Forum for parents «How to eat an elephant»: Break the task into small steps. Inclusive festival «Together we are brighter».

*Objective №4:* Workshop «The use of inclusive practices in the work of a teacher with special needs kids and kids with ASD» with the experts in the field of inclusive education and upbringing; Training «When playing, we overcome fears» with the experts in the field of inclusive education and upbringing; Teaching quest «Unusual kids in usual families» involving the professionals in the field of inclusive education and upbringing.

The activities under the projects "Happiness is being together" in secondary school No.3 in Pinsk will:

- allow to ensure a high degree of inclusion of pupils with special needs and ASD into joint

educational, creative and social activities with their abled-bodied peers;

- improve the quality of education of pupils with special needs and ASD;
- enhance the qualification of the teachers to work with ASD pupils (30 special education teachers and at least 1500 general education teachers);
- provide support and advice for the parents on individual educational programmes for children with special needs and ASD and encourage their social interactions with other children.

The project will also become a platform for educational activities with different social groups to promote the processes of inclusion in society, not only through the use of pedagogically sound methods, but also thanks to high-quality design and wide RP-promotion of the principles of inclusion in social life.

Previous successes of Brest Regional Local Development fund and the expertise of its staff in implementing projects and programmes will add to the experience of the school partner (project “The ABC of equal opportunities” ( <http://sch3.pinsk.edu.by/main.aspx?guid=42761> ). The introduction of innovative socialization technologies and extrapolation of the experience to the system of general secondary education of the Republic of Belarus will help to achieve greater results. The implementation of the project “Happiness is together” in partnership with the “Secondary School No. 3 in Pinsk” will help to improve social competencies of children with ASD, and encourage abled-bodied kids and their parents to accept children with ASD as full members of society.

The set of measures under the project will contribute to the development of inclusive processes in accordance with the Roadmap for the implementation of the SDGs in the Republic of Belarus (SDG No. 10 “Reducing inequality”, No. 4 “Quality education”), with the Concept of the National Strategy for Sustainable Development of the Republic of Belarus for the period until 2035, with the Concept for the Development of Inclusive Education for People with psychophysical development disorders in the Republic of Belarus.

#### **8. Totalfunding (in USD): 30460**

<i>Sourceoffinancing</i>	<i>Fundingvolume (in USD)</i>
<i>Donorfunds</i>	24 805
<i>Co-financing:</i>	
<i>NGO Contribution</i>	3 600
<i>Contribution from Other Sources</i>	2055

#### **9. Locationoftheproject:РеспубликаБеларусь**

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