

No. 2 CDD news

JUNE, 2003

INFORMATION BULLETIN OF THE INSTITUTE WORLD BANK/NORWEGIAN TRUST FUND "COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT" PROJECT



IN THIS ISSUE:

SOCIAL MOBILIZATION AND HUMAN CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT	2
CHUI PROVINCE.	3
STRENGTHENING CIVIL SOCIETY IN CENTRAL ASIA INTRAC.....	4
SOCIAL PARTNERSHIP IN KYRGYZSTAN.....	5
WE ARE STRONGER TOGETHER.....	6
UNDP WIDESPREADS IT'S EXPERIENCE IN SOCIAL MOBILIZATION IN THE KYRGYZ REPUBLIC	8

READ IN THE NEXT ISSUE:

- **CONFERENCE CEN:**
CDD concept vision
Effective technology as an instrument of CDD
Conference **INTRAC**: "Who gets the benefits?"
- **Monitoring and evaluation of development programs in Central Asia."**

COLLECTING INFORMATION!

Dear NGO/CBO representatives and all interested persons!



We are continuing to collect the information for
THE DATABASE

Therefore we ask You to fill out the questionnaire form that you can secure in the office of Counterpart-Sheriktesh
204, Abdrakhmanov str., 4th floor.
720040 Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic
You may conduct inquiries via email:
cddnews@counterpart.org.kg

Mr. Christopher James Lovelace, Senior Country Manager for the Kyrgyz Republic

I am very pleased with this opportunity to greet readers of this CEN newsletter. Community Empowerment Network (CEN) is a small initiative funded by the Norwegian Trust Fund and managed by the World Bank Institute. However, it has a big overall aim, which is to build the capacity of communities to effectively develop, implement, and monitor community-based projects, especially those within the scope of a country's National Poverty Reduction Strategy and other Bank-funded CDD projects. CDD approach is more and more used around the world as an effective tool of poverty reduction. The most important feature of CDD approach is that the poor are viewed not only as the target of poverty reduction efforts but they are treated as initiators, implementers and as resources on which to build so it means also that CDD empowers communities.

There are number of factors for CDD to be successful and the Kyrgyz Republic has many of them, such as understanding, support and commitment to its principles from the Government and the President himself. International donor community is inspired by the Kyrgyz Government pioneering among the CIS countries reforms toward full decentralization, which would create enabling environment for CDD. Number of relevant laws have been drafted and approved that establish legal and institutional basis for political and fiscal decentralization. Many donors, international and local NGOs provide expertise and resources for social mobilization and financing of the community projects themselves. Communities themselves here are ready for taking initiatives, identifying own priorities and implementation own micro projects.

We already support a number of projects, in which CDD concept is used one way or another. These are mainly rural projects, within which community groups are formed, trained and financed. These groups are formed around joint interest, such as self support groups, water users associations, sheep producers groups, community seed funds and others. There is now a clear necessity to scale up CDD initiatives in the Kyrgyz Republic and the World Bank hopes that such project like CEN will serve as a facilitator of this process. In the new Country Assistance Strategy the World Bank foresees support to number of investments that will be built with strong community involvement, such as Village Investment Project, Rural Education Project, and Small Towns Infrastructure Project.

Our hope is that CEN would encourage a wide dialogue among all stakeholders on CDD features in the Kyrgyz Republic, create environment, promote awareness and readiness among all key players.

Social Mobilization and Human Capacity Development

30 leaders of public organizations and NGOs participated in the meeting. The present situation was discussed and general vision and directions in the field of social mobilization were developed during the Forum.

Organization representatives made short presentations on their own social mobilization approaches, achievements and problems. These presentations indicated that the organizations had different visions, and social mobilization implementation methods proved the necessity in developing common understanding of the social mobilization concept by all projects and organizations concerned.

Due to high actuality of the issue it was decided to create a methodological document containing analysis of existing methods, examples of successful implementation of the social mobilization approaches of various projects, and recommendations on their efficient application. Such document would be useful for organization managers as an aid especially due to particular actuality of the issue appeared after signing the Presidential Decree on measures on further development of social mobilization for the benefits of Poverty Reduction in the Kyrgyz Republic.

According to the Decree the implementation of the social mobilization on the republican scale should become one of the main tasks of the local authorities, non-government organizations

and community-based organizations. Aiyl Okmotus and keneshes need to be supported as far as they are the elected bodies and their mission is to represent the population authority at the local level, therefore, any activity on social mobilization of the community-based organizations passing by the local administration bodies would not be expedient. Therefore, the opportunity of taking power by trained people, who would work to secure peoples' welfare and develop and strengthen the local administration needs to be fully utilized during the elections to local keneshes to be held in autumn this year.

CDD Forum participants discussed the problems impeding dissemination of social mobilization experience. Those are the distorted understanding by some Aiyl Okmotu leaders of their role as of "owners-proprietors", non-homogeneous and non-understandable policy of donor organizations that allows for the possibility of the consumers to speculate.

Therefore, ways to solve those problems should be identified through analysis to be conducted by specialists in the frame of the CDD Forum work.

Local news

Participatory Initiatives Being Implemented!



In February 2003 the Partnership Agreement between the Public Association "Center for Civil Initiatives - Leader" and "Kumtor Operating Company" was signed.

Before signing of the Partnership Agreement, on the meeting with the participation of 60 NGOs of Issyk Kul oblast the Committee for cooperation with KOC was elected that comprised 15 members. This committee will solve questions of KOC assets distribution, organization of participatory project monitoring and evaluation. They will be involved in the process funding of "Microcredit Agency - Committee for COK Cooperation".

The first working meeting of the Kumtor Operating Company Cooperation Committee took place in Karakol on May 13.

According to the Partnership Agreement COK has transferred 300 000 KGS that are to be distributed in the form of grant (100 000 KGS) and credit (200 000 KGS) assistance to support the initiatives of the civil society, including community initiatives.

THE BULLETIN IS PUBLISHED WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF "COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT NETWORK" PROJECT WITH THE FINANCIAL SUPPORT OF WORLD BANK INSTITUTE/ NORWEGIAN TRUST FUND .

Copyright [2003], International Bank for Reconstruction and Development/The World Bank. This material may be copied for research, education, or scholarly purposes only in member countries of the World Bank. All materials are subject to revision. The views and interpretations in this document are those of the individual author(s) and/or trainers and should not be attributed to WBI or the World Bank.

Address: Counterpart Sheriktesh, 204 floor, Adrahmanov Str. , Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic

Editorial Group: Vasilkov Dmitry, Niyazalieva Ainura

Published in the Kyrgyz, Russian, English. 900 copies. Distribution is free.

CHUI PROVINCE: LET'S WORK KEEPING IN TOUCH!

In the Kant rayon of the Chui Oblast the "Alga" Public Association have actively enlarged its activities. This organization works all over the province providing for consultancy support and training to a great number of NGOs and CBOs. Success achieved by the organization can be drawn as an example.

Tatyana Temirova, Manager:

The "Alga" Public Association, Kant CSSC works for the third year according to the "Community Outreach and Engagement" Program of Counterpart Consortium. To start we have established the Stakeholder Board, formed from the rayon kenesh' representatives, refugees organizations, local aiyl okmotu, rayon education department, and mass media. During its first meeting the Board selected five communities to participate in this project. Those were the representatives of the Otogon, Krasnsya Rechka, Chon-Daly, Ivanovka and Jurievka Villages.

Center's employees conducted evaluation of needs and requirements in all the above villages with participation of residents, and identified the most important problems in each of those villages. During the meetings the villagers elected members of their communities' initiative groups (CIG), who then have been trained and developed the projects aimed at finding solutions to social problems of local community. The following projects are the results of such efforts:

Re-roofing the secondary school named after Alybaev in Otogon Village;

Repairing water supply network in Jurievka Village;

Repairing water supply network in Ivanovka Village;

Repairing sport facility in secondary school named after K. Malikov in Chon-Daly Village;

Full reconstruction of kindergarten in Krasnaya Rechka Village.

Support Center provided for regular consultancy, logistic and moral-psychological support to the CBO members during project development and implementation. Such cooperation process makes parties to be closer to and trust each other. CIG members developed new capabilities of their internal potential, found ways to unite with other communities, managed to mobilize their efforts into the unified problem-solving process, and acquired skills of making partnership. In other words, people got confident in their own strength.

Working together and applying the ashar method all community-based organizations with the grant support managed to implement all project activities and works over a short period of time. Virtually over two-three months the Otogon Village residents covered local school's roof with slate, residents of Ivanovo and Jurievo Villages repaired and tuned the water supply system in their respective villages, and children from the Chon-Daly Secondary School got heat and comfort in repaired school sport facility.

After project completion the joint monitoring and evaluation have been conducted. Donors were satisfied with the results; however, CIG members did not have an intention to cease their activities. They proceeded to second round of the program to implement all the ideas on poverty prevention and improving social infrastructure in their villages. At that stage the communities elaborated projects on developing profit-gaining activities and establishing public funds. Having examined rural needs again, CIGs started implementation of new projects. As of today the residents of the Otogon and Krasnaya Rechka

Villages have possibilities to develop own business with the help of funds obtained through newly established micro-crediting lines. At that, interest due is very low that supports and assists promotion of their economic interests. Residents of Ivanovo Village decided to establish the family fund, and in the Chon-Daly Village they commissioned the crusher to be used by local residents avoiding such problems as long distances, transportation expenses, and lack of time. CIG members decided to legalize their activities and empower their representatives through registration of respective community-based organizations in accordance with certain public-legal form.

Local CIG activities are not confined to the content of the Kant CSSC Program, the residents also attract funds of other donor organizations. Members of the Otogon CIG having experience of participation in three projects outside the Counterpart Consortium Program supported by the Soros Foundation in Kyrgyzstan and GEF LIFE, are particularly successful in that. However, the initiative group members do not cease their activities once the results are achieved, they rather continue to build their capacity through participation in trainings and various meetings. Support Center continues facilitating the dialogues between community members and other sectors of civil society.

All communities are full of life and fully engaged in project activities, villagers are full of enthusiasm, ideas and energy, and every possibility for improving the life of their community is used at maximum by them.

THE ORGANIZATION FORMED A PART OF THE CEN PROJECT ORGANIZATIONAL GROUP:

INTRAC

Strengthening Civil Society in Central Asia

INTRAC International Training and Research Center started its activities in the Kyrgyz Republic in 2001 in the frame of the Program of the International Development Ministry.

INTRAC believes in necessity to organize civil society as alternative and independent actors working towards sustainable development of equitable civil society.

Starting from 2002 Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, and Uzbekistan launched an implementation of one of the Community Development Program components.

Program Objectives:

- ▶ Assistance to NGOs and NGO SOs to raise efficiency of their work with Community Based Organizations and community.
- ▶ Assistance to other supporting structures of local administration and international organizations' programs.
- ▶ Work with community-based organizations / communities is not conducted directly, but rather implemented through NGOs and NGO SOs.:

The Program provides for capacity building through the following

- ▶ Training on organizational development, resource mobilization, monitoring and evaluation using participatory approaches;
- ▶ Practice on conducting review and assistance to elaboration of development strategy;
- ▶ Individual consultations, focus groups and participation in NGOs' round tables;
- ▶ Supporting peer training network.

READ IN THE NEXT ISSUE:

On April 28-29, 2003 Bishkek hosted an annual INTRAC Conference devoted to the following topics:

"Who gets the benefits? Monitoring and evaluation of development programs in Central Asia."

Conference Objective: to compare approaches to Monitoring and Evaluation of International, Republican, and Local Programs in Central Asia.

In the pace of implementation of the Program on Developing Community in the Kyrgyz Republic the following spheres of activities have been identified:

In Kara-Balta city of Chui Oblast the Krasnovostochnyi Ailyl Okmotu and "Aiyi Korku" Community Based Organization together with the "Consulting" Initiatives Support Center implement actions on strengthening social partnership. The conference participated by regional NGOs and Kazakhstan colleagues was conducted in February this year.

- In Talas City of Talas Oblast the "Kairat" youth community together with the "Aikol" Center conducts research on lobbying youth interests at the local level.
- In Ak-Kuduk and Dyikan Villages of Naryn Oblast the Oblast Water Department and WURPA (Rural Public Association of Water Users) together with CarlBro, conduct research on development of rural water communities.
- In Nookat Rayon of Osh Oblast the Local Communities Association and local administration together with the "Chernobyl liquidators¹ in 21 century" Public Foundation conduct research on the following topic: "Is Ashar a result of voluntary participation in the joint work of communities?"

Community development support is provided through research, exchange of experience, and analysis. Results of some research are to be presented in September this year.

Experience of INTRAC specialists in work with rural communities allows for having general understanding of present situation in rural areas and their problems.

There are different models and approaches to work in a community, however, the most common are the following:

1. External Intervention

In this case the donor agencies and local field NGOs conduct work on identifying rural needs and allocate particular funds for solving social and economic problems. The initiative group, members of which are elected by the community, carries on all the responsibility for project implementation.

2. Internal initiative

Own community initiative, i.e. several people forming a group by their location and possessing common interests mobilize internal resources and solve problems closely related to them and to their village.

¹ People participated in eliminating the Chernobyl disaster.

It is very important to mention that such approach is more acceptable in the context of Kyrgyzstan as far as everything depends on what the community "energy" is directed at.

Despite high activity of communities in rural area they are lacking capacity to maintain sustainability. As far as many community projects depend on donors, in case of the donors leaving the region, majority of communities would fall apart.

Local authorities confirm the importance of the population awareness; according to their opinion we need to raise information consciousness among local population, and that is the problem of whole civil society.

It might happen that it would be not the financial resources to solve the society's problems, but rather peoples' perception of how these problems might be solved to maximum benefit for the society.

Community based organizations proved their importance in improving rural people's life standards, however in order to efficiently use their capacity the level of knowledge in such fields as self-governance and mutual help needs to be raised.

Information is prepared based on materials of the INTRAC Regional Bulletin

ROUND TABLE MATERIALS

SOCIAL PARTNERSHIP DEVELOPMENT AND STRENGTHENING IN JAIYL RAYON

The Round Table on Development and Strengthening of Social Partnership in Jaiyl Rayon was conducted in February this year in Kara-Balta in the frame of the Community Development Program. The Round Table was attended by representatives of Kyrgyz public and non-government organizations, local Mass Media Media, INTRAC consultant from England, INTRAC representatives, Counterpart Consortium representatives, and guests from Kazakhstan.

International and local experience of social partnership was represented at the Round Table. The social partnership experience presented by S.N. Bashtovenko, the Umut-Balykchi Public Association Leader, was of particular interest for the Round Table participants.

The Umut-Balykchi Public Association works already for 12 years, and over that time the organization have followed a long road of development and establishing partner relationships with other sectors. Now we can be proud of our organization's success.

"In the beginning the government structures did not understand us, we used to appeal to them with our problems and proposals, but they could not help us. It is not a secret that Balykchi is called the "dead city", where there is no production, nor any other developed infrastructure left after collapse of the Soviet Union. There are more and more problems appearing in the city, and we have started researching organizations, including government organizations, in regards to who they work for, and what problems they solve. Our research indicated that elderly people found themselves being left alone with their

Definition of the "Social Partnership" by the Copenhagen Center:
People and organizations representing particular totality of state, business and civil structures, which are interrelated due to voluntary, mutually beneficial and innovative relations aimed at achievement of unified public goals through uniting their resources and capabilities.

Definition by Counterpart Consortium:
"Social partnership is a cooperation between NGOs, private sector and government structures for long-term and sustainable solution of community problems."

S. N. Bashtovenko:
"10 years required to get a recognition. There was a lot of humiliation from the side of authorities. However, we did not leave them alone, and were always demanding. Mayors tend to rotate very often in our city; all these influenced our work: you build a relationship with one mayor, then he/she gets replaced, and the new mayor starts dictating his/her conditions. As we have elaborated a city development strategy and partnership regulations, the individuals do not influence our work any more. We demand what we need and what they have to do. After all, these are the NGOs that try to assist the state to solve social problems."

problems, needed to nobody. Therefore, we selected that particular target group: nobody works with elderly people, and nobody assists them in solving their problems. Citizens did not participate in the life of elderly people and were not aware of their problems. To start we have prepared a social video film on this problem, then we address the Balykchi city administration to gather active citizens, managers or other persons interested, in big assembly hall to present the social film. After viewing this film all participants changed their attitude towards the problem of the city and its elderly citizens, because they saw the reality, and some of them could not hide the tears, were touched and everyone was willing to help and participate. Following the above the Large Public Council, and the Small Public Councils were established, and citizens able to actually solve the city problems got involved in the work of the Councils.

The project was supported by the Eurasia Foundation, and further also by the Soros Foundation, and has been used as an example for other cities. Many organizations from our republic and other republics as well come to us to exchange experience on work with the self-assistance groups and social partnership development. First grant received from Counterpart Consortium served as a good stimulus to us. Now we work with DCCA, Soros Foundation, Eurasia Foundation, and other donors. Our organization is a member of the Ishenim network comprised from the Kyrgyz and Kazakh NGOs working with the self-assistance groups."

(to be continued in the next issue)

ALL TOGETHER WE ARE STRONGER!

In April this year the Community Based Organizations Forum was held in Talas. The Forum idea was to unite efforts of the Talas oblast communities and establish an Association.

The initiative of the community organization "Kairat" to hold the local conference has been supported by the Foundation "Counterpart – Consortium/ USAID" in the form of a grant assistance. Throughout its implementation the initiative has become partners' wide support of the Talas oblast administration and UNDP (Decentralization component). As a result it gained a lot of positive responses and grew into a Forum of community organizations. The present forum that showed that communities aspire to get to the high level of development and the organizations are unanimous in their endeavors, and that they can do it when united.

According to the data of international representatives of donor organizations and NGOs implementing international programs there are 330 community – based organizations in the Talas oblast. Many of them work efficiently on donor – supported

projects. Some communities are involved in program activities of international donor agencies. There are also quite a lot of communities starting their activities and working independently. High level of community mobilization allows for implementation of large – scale projects with relatively small financial support due to investing own and partners' labor and material resources.

The basis of their activities is social infrastructure rehabilitation and finding a way out of economically disastrous situation. As of today there are hundreds of projects implemented by communities: schools and village saunas being in bad technical conditions start operating, sport facilities and clubs are being build, water supply systems are being repaired, low – income families are being provided with privileged loans, residents are being trained on basics of law and business. This proves the fact that today's communities need to unite

their initiatives into single, mobile, and structured system.

Promotion of rights and interests of community – based organizations cannot be done by separately working communities in their villages. The institute uniting tendencies towards activation of communities' and, consequently, the whole population's participation in public – political life is needed.

Mr. I.R. Aidaraliev, the oblast's governor, took active part in the Forum's work. Examples of productive cooperation of rural administrations and rayon akimiats on the projects presented at the Forum represent a first step towards further social partnership at a wider scale. Local rural administration heads got an understanding that working together with communities it is possible to solve many problems without external assistance.

Forum participants were presented the communities network experience by



representative of the "Jamaattar Kuchu" Nookat Public Association. Communities having clear management structure and tuned work mechanisms implement network projects and are legitimately considered to be important participants of the rayon scale planning activities, as well as strive to achieve financial sustainability.

Advantage of the community network is in the possibility to participate and represent the citizens' interests in economic and political reforms at all levels. Considering communities opinion and joint planning together with state structures and local administration bodies is a perspective process, which would allow for identification of priority directions in social – economic sphere and attraction of internal resources to solve problems and implement partnership projects.

A network established by this Forum would have a crucial importance for further work of communities. International and state organizations expressed an opinion that the trust in people, and confidence in their capabilities and responsibility have been strengthened.

It appeared that there was not enough time for more detailed developments on solving the tasks, however, the participants mapped some opportunities for solving the tasks being posed.

All participants were happy with the developed materials, and everyone got an opportunity to speak out own opinion. None of participants remained indifferent to the Forum's work, everybody expressed personal vision of the network structure.

COMMUNITIES' STRENGTHS:

- Mutual understanding / friendship;**
- Good ability to get organized;**
- Information availability;**
- Single objective;**
- Mass character;**
- Initiative;**
- Wide field for activities;**
- Work ability;**
- Knowledge in the field;**
- Responsibility;**
- Experience;**
- Openness / transparency;**
- Reliability;**
- Self-governance;**
- Self-financing.**

OPPORTUNITIES:

- Investors' attraction;**
- Drafting sound project proposals;**
- Solving social problems in rural areas;**
- Establishing Association in the scale of village administration / rayon / province;**
- Building social partnership with government structures;**
- Experience exchange between communities;**
- Building savings / development fund;**
- Obtaining professional knowledge;**
- Work with loans.**

Source: Forum's materials

This Forum is an indicator of overcoming public inertness. It is important that the stereotypes, which have been impeding citizen participation in solving their problems, are being changed. Successful results of work of several communities give rise to chain reaction towards wide public mobilization. The Forum conducted at the republican level gave rise to constructive and radical decisions, which would undoubtedly be implemented and bring their historical results. This means that the time for new, strategic thinking is coming.

During the work of Forum the communities prepared the mini-exhibition of their products and goods. The exhibition presented the products manufactured by skilled craftsmen: agricultural tools, clothing manufacture products, and other materials of profit-gaining activities. Communities displayed their active work towards funds development, and manufacturing and selling high quality products.

Over 200 community – based organizations supported a proposal on establishing association and community development fund. The Coordination Committee participated by 15 representatives of the Talas oblast's communities, was established. The Committee's tasks for the period of preparatory organizational works, is development of Association Charter, its structure and Regulations based on the proposals elaborated during the Forum. In the future the Coordination Committee would be entrusted with the functions of providing communications, and promoting rights and interests of the Talas oblast communities.



THE ORGANIZATION FORMED A PART OF THE CEN PROJECT ORGANIZATIONAL GROUP:

United Nations Development Program

WIDESPREADS ITS EXPERIENCE IN SOCIAL MOBILIZATION IN THE KYRGYZ REPUBLIC

Today UNDP acts at local level in all oblasts of the Kyrgyz Republic. 362 villages in the Republic are covered by social mobilization. With the support of personnel of two UNDP programs on Social Governance and Political and Administrative Governance over 3,000 community-based organizations participated by 40,000 people have been established in villages at the local level. The experience is also being widely disseminated over those villages, which are not pilot villages, but residents of which are striving to participate in educational programs.

Starting from 1998 with the UNDP support the training seminars aimed at teaching the members of established community based organizations the methods of conducting agricultural activities, organization of profit-gaining activities, techniques on obtaining and using the loans, accounting, marketing, participatory planning, etc. were conducted. Villagers, who participated in training, have acquired access to financial resources both for accomplishing economic activities, and restoring village infrastructure. During the five years of participation in the UNDP programs the villagers have engaged into social mobilization schemes received micro-credits for the amount of KGS 160,000,000.00 from the Kyrgyz Agricultural Corporation, and KGS 7,500,000.00 from 17 Local Development Funds recently established with the UNDP support. Social collateral and mutual responsibility scheme adopted in the frame of social mobilization allows providing for high (98 %) repayment of loans obtained.

To the present moment there are 345 projects on rural infrastructure rehabilitation for the total amount of KGS 63,000,000.00 implemented. At that, over 60 % of infrastructure rehabilitation project costs are contributed by community-based organizations and local authorities.

A Cooperation Agreement between the Ministry of Labor and Social Protection of the Kyrgyz Republic, the Association of Local Administration of Villages and Settlements of the Kyrgyz Republic, and the UNDP to provide for dissemination of the social mobilization experience was signed on May 8, 2003.

The Agreement provides for training of the Ministry's personnel at all levels, as well as the employees of the local administration on the social mobilization methods. Complete set of training aids and practical manuals on social mobilization would be distributed to all Aiyi Okmotu, and all rayon and oblast administrations. In addition, the parties would conduct a participatory work on establishing the mutual aid groups, and providing training and support to them, i.e. the complete cycle of services delivered today to the UNDP target groups would be reproduced. Thus, practical day-to-day participation in the social mobilization schemes would allow the employees of the Ministry of Social Protection and employees of local administration bodies to independently conduct this work in future.

The Agreement would be valid within the year of 2003, and in future the Agreement's terms can be amended and added in accordance with the changes taking place in the field. The Agreement is open for participation by any

organizations involved in social mobilization schemes.

On April 18, 2003 the President of the Kyrgyz Republic signed a Decree On Measures for Further Development of Social Mobilization for the Benefits of Poverty Reduction in the Kyrgyz Republic. According to the Decree conducting the social mobilization on the country scale should become one of major tasks for all branches of power and civil society as a whole.

To efficiently implement this task the UNDP Kyrgyzstan considers it possible to disseminate the accumulated social mobilization experience through rendering practical assistance with the use of the unified and practically proved model. Practical activities on disseminating the social mobilization experience have already started. The UNDP Social Governance Program conducted a series of five-days practical seminars in all oblasts of the Republic for social workers of the Ministry of Labor and Social Protection, employees of oblast, rayon administrations, and Aiyi Okmotu in February-March this year. The seminars were attended by 96 social workers of Aiyi Okmotu, 32 representatives of rayon social protection departments, and 8 representatives of oblast social protection departments. Training was mainly aimed at disseminating of knowledge on notions, methods, mechanisms and specific features of social mobilization and work with poor people in rural areas.

The information is compiled of materials of The UNDP Social Administration Program