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**THE COUNTERPART CONSORTIUM**

**PROGRAM OF CIVIL SOCIETY AND NGO  
DEVELOPMENT FOR THE CENTRAL ASIA REGION**

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1. GRANT-RELATED ACTIVITIES
2. TRAINING MATRIX

## I. BROAD SECTOR SUPPORT: COUNTERPART INTERNATIONAL

### A. PROJECT PURPOSE

The purpose of the Counterpart project component is:

**Increase informed citizen participation in political and economic decision-making.**

### B. PROJECT IMPACTS

#### Kazakhstan

##### **Sustainable Civil Society Organizations**

##### ***Mentally Disabled Children and Their Parents Receive New Social & Psychological Services***

Only 47% of 4,400 mentally disabled children in Astana are involved in the formal education system. The others do not receive relevant assistance as their diagnosis was designated as an “inability to receive education”. Their parents lack information and skills in methods of developing and educating mentally disabled children exacerbating the problem as incompetent correctional assistance only aggravates existing defects. After thorough trainings and consultations in *NGO & Community and Project Design* and seed money from the CSSC ASTRA a local initiative group formed the *Center for Social Adaptation of Children*. The *Center* received a grant from \$6,500 grant from Soros-Kazakhstan Fund to implement the project *All Children Are Loved & Equal*, under which the *Center* is providing the service *Socio-Psychological Assistance for Children with Mental Development Diseases* for the 53% of children and their parents who otherwise are not receiving professional aid.

##### ***CSSC Attracts New Investments to the Development Needs of Rural Areas in Semey Region***

The Semey countryside faces a problem with sustainable development caused by a lack of mature rural organizations capable of mobilizing local resources and attracting external funds for local needs. As an active regional player in rural organizational development, the CSSC *IRIS*, signed a partnership agreement with the British organization *Mouche* in March 2003 to execute the joint DFID-funded project *Sustainable Land-Use*. According to the project’s two-year framework, the CSSC will implement its activity in the villages of Sarzhal and Aqzhar, located in close proximity to a former nuclear testing site. The \$20,000 project incorporates PCA/PRA research, CBO development, and community mobilization through the participatory design of an action plan on sustainable land use in the given counties. *IRIS*’ involvement in this significant project was a result of CSSC staff and Hub Center consultants who designed the special OD program, including technical and consulting supports to the rural regions. As a result, Counterpart’s OD consulting and assistance enabled the CSSC *IRIS* to strengthen its capacity in NGO/CBO development and expand its financial base.

##### ***Initiative Group Solves Local Problem by Establishing an NGO***

In the Aqtobe region, there is a gap in the delivery of medical assistance to children in boarding schools, orphanages and children from vulnerable families. An initiative group of physicians committed to find alternative ways to solve this problem, and to develop organizational management skills to improve public health in the region. Through extensive training, consultations and technical assistance provided by the CSSC *SMEDA*, the initiative group was able to organize and register as a public fund *EMPRO*, which enables them to meet the demands of patients. The newly founded NGO has already conducted two charity campaigns and raised over 7,000 KZT (\$46) for the needs of disabled children in the local kindergarten *Doctor Aibolit*. In addition, a New Year’s party was organized for children from vulnerable families and gifts were given to 11 children. The NGO has enhanced its activities and is currently capable of providing regular consultations and medical assistance to local patients. To date, eight children with infant cerebral palsy have been provided with free medical assistance from the NGO.

### ***NGO Expands its Service Delivery through Fundraising***

The Public Fund *Saqtan* lacked resources to develop effective training programs needed to address the prevention of HIV/AIDS in the Aqmola region. Due to Counterpart's trainings and seminars on interactive methods and technical support provided by the CSSC *ASTRA*, the Fund has strengthened its team, recruited new volunteers, and improved fundraising skills. These achievements have resulted in proper project design, and the attraction of additional funds in the sum of 400,000 KZT (\$2,650) from the Embassy of the Netherlands. As a result, *Saqtan* purchased equipment for the training room in their HIV/AIDS Prevention Center, and is now able to introduce and conduct effective interactive trainings for its target groups.

### **Media/Outreach**

#### ***CSSC ZUBR Develops Social Partnership in the Region through Media Outreach***

A major impediment to non-profit sector development is limited public awareness about NGO activities. This is particularly true in East Kazakhstan, where the larger public is generally not involved in NGO activities and the local government publicly underestimates the significance of NGOs. The latter is a major contributor to the diminished effectiveness of socially important programs in the region. The Oskemen CSSC *ZUBR*, having received consultations in *Mass Media Outreach*, *Constituency Building*, and *Social Partnership* by from the Hub Center, proposed a joint project on public awareness with the Oblast Department of Information & Public Accord. The project, commencing in March, calls for the design and publication of a special monthly article "Non-Profit Sector" in the regional newspaper *Rudnyi Altai*. This gives local NGOs an opportunity to present their activities to a broader audience and lay the foundation for higher level social partnerships in East Kazakhstan.

### **Social Partnership**

#### ***Community Strengthens Cooperation with Local Government and an International Fund***

A number of communities limit their resources strictly to the framework of Counterpart's CAG projects. However, during the CAG project *Greenhouse Construction* the NGO *Aq Bota* was able to extend its project with additional resources from the Israeli international fund *MASHAV* including a \$1,400 drops irrigation system and free consulting by Israeli experts. *ZHALGHAS-Counterpart's* consulting and technical support enabled its partner NGO to mobilize resources in order to provide technical assistance to the project. Recently, *MASHAV* has provided *Aq Bota* with special materials required to save heat in the greenhouse. Through additional cooperation with the local municipal body, the NGO was able to register its documents at the proper time with no burden. Moreover, the Akimat of the Turksib District provided the community with transportation for the project's construction needs. Not only did the NGO implement a stronger project, but they also cultivated relationships with international organizations and the local government that will strengthen future programming.

#### ***The NGOs Signs Memorandum on Cooperation with Ministry of Education***

A significant number of NGOs still lack mutual understanding with state officials and, by extension, sustainable cooperation and partnership with state bodies. Nevertheless, Almaty-based public organizations *Ravny-Ravnomu* and the *Association of Children Rights Protection* established contact with the municipal Akimat and Departments of Public Health and Education to launch a healthcare program for local schoolchildren. *Ravnyi-Ravnomu* designed the program *Healthy Way of Life* for the school audience, conducted correspondence and negotiations with state structures, and organized roundtables and conferences in Almaty, Astana and Aqtobe. With skills developed through Social Partnership trainings from *ZHALGHAS-Counterpart* the NGOs lobbied for the formation of Coordination Councils in the national government and the Akimat of Almaty, and signed a memorandum on cooperation with Ministry of Education. Supported by the Almaty Akimat, the NGOs promoted their joint project in the schools of Auezov District of Almaty-city and secured media coverage by the TV channel *Yuzhnaya Stolitsa*.

## **Advocacy**

### ***NGO Advocated the Interests of Children & their Parents in the Sphere of Education***

Recently, the Department of Education initiated a new system for rotating school directors in the schools of the Almaty Oblast. However, this new system had a negative impact on the education process, as it took a long time for pupils to adapt to the change of directors. Equipped with skills gained in Advocacy and Mass Media Outreach trainings and technical assistance from ZHALGHAS-Counterpart, the Association to Protect Children's Rights launched a public awareness campaign in October 2002 to encourage the Department to cancel the rotation program. Ultimately, by means of informational campaigns through mass media, support letters distribution to state bodies and the active involvement of influential *Confederation of NGOs of Kazakhstan* (CNOK), the rotation of school directors stopped in February 2003.

### ***Association of Invalids Secures Reduction of State Registration Fees***

The public organization *Stoik* was found in 1997 to render assistance to disabled people in the Stepnogorsk area of Aqmola Oblast. Since then the organization has been confronted by problems of exorbitant registration fees of 20 minimal monthly wage rates preventing it from fully registering as an NGO. The Astana CSSC *ASTRa* provided the Association with consultations and Advocacy training, which resulted in a petition to the Mazhilis Deputy to cut the fee rate. As a well-known civic-minded official and a member of *ASTRa*'s Board of Directors, the Deputy was able to advocate on behalf of the NGO's interests. On January 15, 2003 the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan issued Decree No. 18 that set the state registration fee for public organizations of invalids at twice the monthly indexes (1,744 KZT = \$11.55), that is ten times lower than the previous rate.

### ***NGO Efforts Result in an Amendment to the Law on Welfare for Victims of Political Repressions***

The 26<sup>th</sup> Clause of the Law *On Rehabilitation of Victims of Mass Political Repressions* from April 1993 was aimed to support all victims through state welfare programs. However, a Decree by the Ministry of Labor & Social Protection applied to only civilians who had been rehabilitated after the Law came into force in 1997. The *Association of Victims of Unlawful Repressions*, with skills developed through consultations and training by the CSSC *ASTRa*, conducted a number of advocacy and public awareness campaigns to appeal to the Ministry of Justice's Constitutional Council and the Department of the Public Prosecutor. The campaigns success can be demonstrated by the announcement by the Ministry of Justice on March 20, 2003 in Astana that the Law applies to persons who had been rehabilitated both before and after the 1997 date.

## **Community Mobilization**

### ***Water Supply Leads to Improvement of Well-Being in the Community***

The community *Bes Aghash Village* of the Almaty Oblast highlighted inadequate water supply as a significant problem after participating in PCA exercises conducted by *BASPANA*. The NGO and the community participated in training sessions held by ZHALGHAS on *Community Mobilization and Project Design*, and have subsequently implemented a CAG to address the problem. As a result of project implementation, each of the sixty targeted households saved nearly 1,200 KZT (\$8) on water utilization. In addition, the enterprising families have built saunas and launched small businesses of their own. To date, there are nine saunas to fulfill the needs of people from the neighboring villages.

### ***New Project Design Results in Innovate Methods of Interaction Between Educators and Wards***

There is a lack of interaction and mutual understanding between educators and the 160 wards in Oskemen's *Youths' Home*. This has led to an increase in criminal offences among minors. The public organization *Knigolyub* tapped into their expertise in educational programming and mobilized employees of *Youths' Home* to launch a joint project entitled *Methods of Moral Education for Minors*. Taking part in seminars, summer school, and consulting services of the CSSC *ZUBR*, the NGOs designed a project that was funded by Soros-Kazakhstan with \$407. As a result, an alternative system of interactive education was introduced in *Youths' Home*, involving 25 educators and 25 wards contributing to more amiable relations.

### ***Initiative Group Solves Local Problem by Establishing an NGO***

There is an acute shortage in the delivery of medical assistance to children in boarding schools, orphanages and children from vulnerable families from the Aqtobe region. An initiative group of physicians set a goal of finding an alternative way to solve this particular problem, and to develop organizational management skills, aimed at the improvement of public health in the region. Due to the amount of training sessions, consultations and technical assistance provided by the CSSC *SMEDA*, the initiative group was able to organize and register a public fund *EMPRO* that enables them to meet the demands of patients. In fact, a newly founded NGO has already conducted two charity campaigns and raised over 7,000 KZT (\$46) for the needs of disabled children in the local kindergarten *Doctor Aibolit*. In addition, a New Year's party was organized for children from vulnerable families and gifts were given to 11 children. The NGO has enhanced its activities and is currently capable of providing regular consultations and medical assistance to local patients. To date, 8 children with infant cerebral palsy have been provided with free medical assistance from the NGO.

### ***Initiative Group of Saran's Vicinity Solves the Local Problems through the Project Expansion***

Economic transition resulted in the decline of many countryside settlements in Kazakhstan, particularly the villages of Dubovka, Planovyi, Shakhta 106 of the Saran area of Qaraghandy Oblast. The resulting problems include a decline of communication infrastructure, a shortage of power and water supply, the disorganization of transportation, and a lack of medical aid service. A self-management committee was formed from an initiative group representing the three villages. The Committee organized a social center to meet local needs. Representatives of the CSSC *ECOCENTER* performed PCA and, jointly with the initiative group, designed a Community Action Plan and project proposal that lead to the project *Nash Dom*. The project enabled the community to open the social center and offer assistance to community members through medical aid, public dispensary, and legal consulting. As a result, over 2,500 community members received proper medical and legal assistance. Additionally, community members are able to gather in the center to discuss ongoing issues concerning community needs and the Akim First Deputy organized regular meetings between community members and state officials in the center to address quality of life issues.

## **Kyrgyzstan**

### **Sustainable Civil Society Organizations**

#### ***United States Democracy Commission Supports Legal Education of Rural Women Project***

Women from the rural areas of Kyrgyzstan have expressed a need for greater knowledge of NGO legal issues. Limited access to information and resources has led to a deterioration of their legal knowledge. The *Coalition for Democracy and Civic Society* public union actively participated in Talas CSSC's trainings and developed the "Education of Women in Rural Areas on Legal Issues Project" in close consultation with the CSSC. The United States Democracy Commission in the Kyrgyz Republic supported the above project allocating \$2,661. Currently, the NGO is conducting trainings, seminars and roundtables on legal issues and on the creation of women's NGOs among village women in the Talas oblast. To date, the NGO has conducted two trainings and 21 consultations for 40 women from two villages participated in trainings and consultations.

#### ***NGO Organizes Fundraiser for School Breakfast Program for 150 School Children***

The temperature in the Arstanbap village's secondary school has been low due to a malfunctioning heating system, which negatively influenced children's health. To combat the cold, hot breakfasts were prepared for children during the winter period. Unfortunately, due to the school's scarce administrative budget, the provision of hot breakfasts was limited. The members of the NGO *Salman-Ata* participated in Jalal-Abad CSSC's trainings on NGO and Community, Project Design and Fundraising. The NGO conducted a fundraising campaign for the secondary school children called *Free Food*. The village's 200 residents collectively provided \$152 and the village forestry administration contributed an additional \$50. One hundred and fifty secondary school children have received hot breakfasts from the NGO for the duration of the three-month winter season.

### ***Nookat CSSC Provides Training Services for Fees***

Many international organizations have conducted trainings, seminars and roundtables devoted to the education of the local population concerning independent solutions to social problems. These activities are primarily conducted for the urban population and rural populations have been neglected as a result of transportation and language difficulties. To address this gap, the Nookat CSSC began charging fees to conduct trainings in Kyrgyz and Uzbek local languages. As a result, 23 fee-for-service trainings were conducted for five village councils with a total of 391 villagers in attendance. The Nookat CSSC collected \$1,695 in training fees, thus enhancing its sustainability.

### ***Providing secondary education to Kosh-Almurut children***

Since 2001, the remote village of Kosh-Almurut in Jalalabad Oblast has experienced a problem related to the rising number of children in secondary schools. Students were attending school in shifts to accommodate the population. To address this problem, in late 2001 village residents started construction of additional classrooms. The village authorities lacked the appropriate resources to complete the construction. The NGO *Kosh-Almurut* conducted a meeting with the head of the village authorities, and facilitated the creation of the community initiative group to address this issue. The initiative group developed a detailed proposal with technical estimates and architectural assignments. This year, the leader of *Kosh-Almurut* and three members participated in the Jalalabad CSSC training in Project Design and learned more about mobilizing communities. As a result of this support, the project was redesigned to include the village authorities as a partner and was presented to ADB and UNDP for funding. The ADB is contributing \$2,500 and the UNDP is providing \$1,500. The village governments are taking responsibility for project implementation. It is anticipated that after the completion of the project 1637 students will more comfortably receive secondary education.

### ***Sustainability through the partnership***

The main problem of the CSSC in Kyrgyzstan is the relationship with business structures in terms of sustainable corporate charity. This issue was raised in the OD assessments in Karakol CSSC although there were several contributions of local businesses to the projects of NGOs and communities. Training and consultations on strategic planning, social partnership have been provided to the Karakol CSSC. According the strategic plan the development of relations with Kumtor Operating Company was the priority among the local sources of financing. According the negotiations between Karakol CSSC and representatives of Kumtor Operating Company it was decided to establish Oblast committee of collaboration on the base of Karakol CSSC. According the agreement the Kumtor Operating Company will contribute 80000 soms (1800 USD) per year to the committee. Projects from NGOs, communities will consider on the competition basis.

### ***Volunteerism development in Kerben CSSC***

Priority problems identified in the OD assessment in the Kerben CSSC were lack of activity of volunteers. Counterpart consultants facilitated development of action plan to promote volunteerism activities in the Center. Consultations, trainings on volunteerism development have been provided by Counterpart. Kerben CSSC participated in the exchange program of CSSC with visits of volunteers of Kerben CSSC to other centers and activities such as round table in Kara-Balta CSSC at the International Volunteer Day. According the database the number of volunteers reached 30 against 10.

### ***First step to the community development sustainability***

Community Foundations is the new concept in terms of sustainability of the community development. Projects on revenue generation and micro business in communities have been turned out the first step to the creation of community foundations by CSSC's. Lack of knowledge and experience on providing consultation on revenue generation, business development, community foundations to the members initiative groups of target communities was one of the main problem raised in the OD assessments in all CSSC's. This issue was raised in the Case management meetings in Counterpart as well. Consultations and presentations were delivered for CSSC's. Several sessions and presentations of Counterpart staff and training of partner from Counterpart Germany, visit of staff members of Karakol and Osh CSSC's centers to Germany increased capacity in development of community

foundations. Since the beginning of revenue generation projects there were several achievements. The quality of revenue generation projects improved. CSSC's increased capacity in providing services on business planning and participatory monitoring and evaluation of these projects. For instance, according to the business plan the community members of Osh CSSC's target community started to pay interests to the community initiative group. The sum of reimbursement is 1600 soms from. Projects on revenue generation in Talas and Kerben target communities started to give a real income as well.

### **Advocacy**

#### ***Amendments and additions to the Tax Code of the Kyrgyz Republic" bill was successfully approved***

Taxation is one of the most important issues for the sustainable development of the civil society. With the adoption of the Tax Code in 1996, an attempt was made to create a favorable tax regime for NGOs. However, due to absence of such fundamental laws as the NGO Law and the Law on Patronage and Charitable Activities, the tax privileges were not provided in an appropriate way, which caused a lot of conflicts. The NGO taxation procedures seemed not conducive to the creation of friendly conditions for effective development of the NGO sector. The task force, consisting of deputies of the Legislative Chamber of Jogorku Kenesh (the Kyrgyz Parliament), representatives of local NGOs and ICNL, developed the bill called *Amendments and Additions to the Tax Code of the Kyrgyz Republic*. The CSSC Association initiated a national advocacy campaign to lobby this bill and conducted 14 round tables in all provinces of Kyrgyzstan with participation of 350 people, representing NGOs, mass media and state institutions, including fiscal entities. The roundtables' participants discussed the proposed bill and prepared appeals to 45 deputies of the Legislative Chamber of Jogorku Kenesh with request to support the efforts of the civil society organizations and adopt the bill. On March 8, 2003, the bill *Amendments and additions to the Tax Code of the Kyrgyz Republic* was signed by the President of Kyrgyz Republic and on March 14 it was put into force.

#### ***Attention, Ayan is on the air – we are protecting our rights!***

The population of the remote villages of *8 of March* and *Shoro* (Naryn Rayon) feel a great shortage of knowledge in the sphere of legal issues and protection of their civil rights due to a lack of informational resources. The community members developed the project titled *Free consultation of NGO Soopker on Legal Issues* for the benefit of the population of remote villages, which approved in 2002 by the Democratic Commission of the USA (at the level of 30%). The NGO *Soopker* in collaboration with independent TV company *Ayan* decided to provide the population with the free consultations on legal issues by means of video films, which have been distributed among the population. The members of *Soopker* and TV Station *Ayan* have participated in Counterpart Consortium training workshop in *Project Design, Social Partnership, Fundraising, Public Education through Mass Media* and others conducted through the CSSC Naryn since 1997. As the result, the population of Naryn and At-Bashy Rayons (about 300 people) have been provided consultations by NGO *Soopker* in legal issues, particularly, in exchange of old Soviet passports to new national ones, dwelling ownership, division of property, collecting alimonies for support of children and so on.

### **Community Mobilization**

#### ***Fundraising Leads to Reconstruction of School Building***

The Kara-Chunkur village has two school buildings, one of which has been in terrible condition for ten years due to budget constraints. Because of the poor building condition, classes have been conducted in shifts. Members of the public association, *Etno-Tur Santash*, comprised of villagers from Kara-Chunkur, requested and received assistance in fundraising, project design, and strategic planning from the Karakol CSSC. Using the acquired knowledge, the members drafted projects to reconstruct the non-operating school buildings. The project school reconstruction project was supported by a Mercy Corps grant of \$3,330.

#### ***Community Mobilization Leads to Construction of School***

The population of the *Boo Terek* village has grown to 3,500 people, of which 900-1000 are children. The existing school was intended for only 450 students; therefore, there is a need for considerable expansion of the school. An initiative group of six people, who subsequently registered as a public fund (PF), was established to solve this problem. The members of the PF received training from the

Talas CSSC on project development and fundraising. The PF mobilized 340 people for reconstruction of the school with the involvement of state and private sectors. The local municipality and businessmen have provided construction materials and freight delivery transport valued at \$13,775. After roofing the school with slates provided by Ministry of Emergency (costing \$580), the project was submitted to the Canadian Fund for further financing (\$5,200). The contribution from the local population amounted to \$9,280. The total construction cost of the school is \$29,000. Completion is on track for the beginning of the school year in September. The leader of the project has expressed his gratitude to the staff of the Center and hopes for further assistance in the administration of future projects.

### ***Semenov Fir: a rare and endangered species of Kyrgyzstan's flora***

The *Semenov fir* is registered on the Red Book of species and grows in a handful of territories in the Kyrgyz Republic, including an area of five villages in the Bakai-Ata Rayon. For the last 10 years the natural habitat of these trees has decreased from 40 hectares to 15. The trees are in great danger from being cut down by the local population since firewood yields such a high price. After participating in the Talas CSSC training in Project Design, the members of the NGO *Ak-Kaiyn* developed an idea to protect this rare species and requested help from the CSSC to identify appropriate donor agencies and to develop the funding application. The project *Semenov Fir* was approved by the UNDP/GEF Program for \$6,000. The objectives of the project are to purchase and plant young *Semenov fir* trees (1,000 units) on the original 40 hectare plot and to conduct a public awareness campaign among the five villages (7,000 people) to promote the protection of this rare species. In all, 28 families joined the initiative. After a one and a half year period, there will be land plots with beautiful *Semenov fir* trees in the areas where they once stood.

## **Tajikistan**

### **Sustainable Civil Society Organizations**

#### ***NGO Succeeds in Teaching Literacy for Girls In Rural Areas***

As a result of both the Civil War and the existing economic problems, many children, especially girls in rural areas, have not been able to attend school and many of them lack basic literacy skills. To address this problem, the NGO *Javshan* in the Ragun district organized literacy courses for girls. After forming their NGO in 1999, members of *Javshan* participated in Counterpart's training workshops on NGO and Community, Project Design, NGO Management, Coalition Building and Social Partnership conducted by Dushanbe CSSC. Through the partnership with the NGO *Parvin* they received a grant from Mercy Corps to educate 30 girls between the ages of thirteen and sixteen. They also involved the Education Department of the Ragun District Government, which provided them with space in a kindergarten. Thirty girls received basic education through these courses and twelve of them continued their studies at secondary schools. In addition to this, they prepared thirty-five girls who were secondary school graduates for entrance into establishments of higher education. All thirty-five girls are currently pursuing higher education.

#### ***UNHCR Contracts Fidokor to Implement its Community Mobilization Program in Khatlon***

Financial sustainability has been a critical issue for many NGOs in Tajikistan. NGO *Fidokor*, which runs the Kurghon-Teppa CSSC has made considerable progress in paving their way towards sustainability by diversifying their funding. In 2002, UNHCR selected *Fidokor* as a partner to implement the project entitled "Community Mobilization in Khatlon" and provided them with a grant of \$30,000. \$1,000 of the total grant was allocated for *Fidokor's* overhead expenses. At the end of the project, *Fidokor* achieved the following:

- Conducted PCA and CAP activities in 18 communities in partnership with five NGO partners
- Provided community action grants to 9 communities (grant maximum of \$2,300)
- Issued micro-loans to 48 households.

As a result of successful implementation, *Fidokor* received another grant of \$30,000 from UNHCR in 2003 to carry out similar program activities in Jilikul and Kumsangir with a particular focus on promoting the sustainability of communities. Again as part of this grant, *Fidokor* received funds for overhead costs as well as financing to purchase computer equipment. *Fidokor* also works with Mercy Corps, Norwegian Refugee Counsel, National Social and Investment Fund to implement their projects. Over the past few years, Counterpart has provided direct technical assistance to strengthen the institutional development of *Fidokor* through various trainings including strategic planning and fundraising, one-on-one organizational development consultations, and institutional support grants.

### ***A Good Example of Sustainable NGOs***

The NGO *Munis* based in Hisor District, is Counterpart's target NGO and its members have received a great deal of training and other technical assistance from the Dushanbe CSSC. *Munis'* mission is to help solve the problems of the most vulnerable population in Hisor, mostly by creating jobs for them. The NGO is renting two hectares of land and has a livestock farm, where twenty-four members of the NGO work. The income gained from the land and farms is spent not only for the organization's sustainability but also on charity activities. Recently, they provided five hundred children of poor families in Hisor with clothing and footwear. They also assisted sixteen single mothers with access to credit to improve their lives. *Munis* not only provides assistance to vulnerable citizens, but also helps community groups address their priority problems. After taking Counterpart's training workshops on Participatory Community Appraisal (CAP), *Munis* started implementing community mobilization activities. The last community proposal developed with *Munis'* assistance was the Ehyo Initiative Group's project to create a poultry farm to support 103 poor families and to provide jobs for thirteen women who are heads of their family. ORA International and the Swiss Agency for Development funded this project proposal.

### **Social Partnership**

#### ***The Social Partnership Follow-Up Meeting in Khatlon Brings New Results***

There are still districts in Tajikistan where local governments either do not recognize or underestimate the role of NGOs in addressing social problems. As a result of the Social Partnership follow-up meeting conducted by the Kurghon-Teppa and Kulob CSSCs in December in Khatlon, a number of successful social partnerships between local government and NGOs were initiated. One such example is *Mehan*, which is one of the many Community Development Centers (CDCs) that assist poor community members through establishing small enterprises and providing them with jobs. After the meeting, the Governor of Vose met with the leader of the CDC to discuss cooperation. As a first step, the Governor agreed to provide *Mehan* with land to grow wheat for the CDC's macaroni shop.

#### ***One More Impact of the Social Partnership Efforts in Kulob***

Despite of their efforts, Kulob NGOs have been facing difficulties in setting up partner relationships with local government. Last Summer Counterpart hosted the National Conference on Social Partnership with participation of the President and follow-up meetings were organized in December in the Khatlon Oblast. On March 19 the Kulob CSSC initiated a roundtable with the Kulob Government Chairperson, representatives of some Governmental structures, Kulob City Justice Department representatives and local NGO leaders. Along with other issues, the leaders of Kulob NGOs talked about common problems (absence of office space and land and problems with Law-Enforcement Agencies and Tax Bodies, etc.). After extensive discussions the Kulob Government Chairperson designated 10 rooms in the Katlon Hotel to NGOs for their long-term use and allocated plots of land for NGOs. The Chairperson commissioned his deputies to resolve issues related to illegal treatment of NGOs by Law-Enforcement Agencies and Tax Bodies.

### **Community Mobilization**

#### ***Initiative Mobilizes a Community to Address the Water Problem***

A common problem throughout Tajikistan, is that many communities do not have access to potable water. With the collapse of the Soviet Union, many state utility departments were left bankrupt including the water management department. As a result, many communities are faced with rotting water pipes, inoperable water pumps and are without the necessary funds to repair and maintain their

water systems. Community members often do not have clean water and must travel great distances for potable water. *Govmesh*, located in Tursunzade, is an example of such a community. In the fall of 2002, the NGO *Initiative*, from Tursunzade received PCA training from Counterpart. *Initiative* then conducted a PCA with the community *Govmesh*. During the PCA, community members identified the lack of drinking water as their priority problem. A number of activists from the community formed an initiative group and, with technical assistance from *Initiative*, developed an action plan for laying a water pipe line to the community from an existing water borehole in the northern part of the community. Together they submitted a proposal to Counterpart that was funded with a \$3,612 community action grant. The community contributed over 30% in matching funds (\$1,690) in the form of labor and construction materials. As a result of this community initiative, 652 people in *Govmesh* now have access to drinking water. This community further demonstrates its lasting empowerment by continuing to address other problems. At the moment, they are planning to reconstruct a secondary school in their town.

### ***Community in Varzob Utilizes Government to Solve Flood Problem***

Counterpart's target NGO *Nilufar* conducted a PCA in the community *Guraha* in the Varzob District. The community members identified the annual spring floods that devastate this village as their priority problem. Every Spring, the Varzob River overflows its banks and floods the community. Over the last few years, the floods have damaged 60% of the households and completely destroyed six houses. As an outcome of the PCA process facilitated by *Nilufar*, the community members decided to address this problem by reinforcing the banks of the river and cleaning the river. The community members then applied to the Ministry of Emergency for support. The Ministry of Emergency confirmed the need for taking immediate actions to resolve this problem and presented its recommendations to the Government. In response, the Government provided the community with a bulldozer and 1000 meters of netting. The community members contributed fuel and labor. In addition, CARE International supported the project by providing food for the workers. In total, the community cleaned 200 meters of river and strengthened the riverbank by building 15 dykes. Today, 726 people (80 households) no longer fear damage and destruction from the Spring floods.

### ***Light and Security for Each House***

One of the major problems for families reconstructing their homes after the civil war is the lack of adequate power supply. Over the past few years, because of the absence of the electricity, many villagers have siphoned electricity from the main electricity poles without regard for safety regulations. High voltage cables are hanging low, creating a hazard for the general population, not to mention the children that play around these badly connected, high voltage cables. When *Munis*, Counterpart's grantee and target NGO conducted PCA exercises with the members of the Hissar District *Karamkul* Community they identified electricity supply as a priority problem. The Initiative Group *Shafak*, formed during the PCA activity and, jointly with the community members, designed a project proposal to provide the population with a more stable power supply. Counterpart supported this project with \$3,720. As a result, 35 households (257 people) have a safe power supply. Sixteen electricity transmission poles were installed with the efforts of the citizens. Electric equipment was installed according to all safety regulations.

### ***Children Are Our Future***

At present the majority of communities understand that nobody will solve their problems instead of them until they start to act themselves. The NGO *Sogdiana* conducted PCA exercises in *Chortuti Poen* in the Leninsky District and identified the following priority problems: poverty, poor education and unemployment. In particular, community members complained about poor conditions in the local school and the lack of natural gas. During the PCA activity an Initiative Group *Dastras* was established from the active members of the community. They agreed to address the poor conditions of the school and developed an action plan to reconstruct the school. They submitted a project proposal, which was funded by Counterpart with \$3,791 for construction materials (the community contributed labor). The project was implemented over a two-month period. As a result of this project, 450 children attend the school repaired by their parents and the community is energized to address their natural gas supply problem.

## Turkmenistan

### **Sustainable Civil Society Organizations**

#### ***Water User's Association Expands the Field of their Services***

Counterpart has worked with the Water User's Association in the Dashoguz region on the goal of sustainability for over two years. As a result of the grassroots approach and the effective social partnership with the governmental structures of the village, etrap and region levels, the organization now successfully provides drinking water delivery to 14,000 people living in 44 villages of Turkmenbashi etrap. In January 2001 after the conclusion of the Counterpart Support Program, the Association registered with the Ministry of Justice of Turkmenistan under the name of *Sarygamysh* and started working independently. *Sarygamysh* continued to cooperate with the Dashoguz CSSC – participating in training, and other activities and receiving consultations on a regular basis. Once the WUA localized, its members, with the help of Dashoguz CSSC, initiated a process of identifying new donors and other sources of financial and technical support. In the course of the organizational strategic planning, *Sarygamysh* identified the demand-driven goal as the expansion of the services provided by the organization in order to reach people in more remote areas. One of the options for effective realization of this strategy was to purchase a water truck. To accomplish this goal, *Sarygamysh* turned to Dashoguz CSSC for help and technical support. The CSSC assisted the organization in identifying possible donors, establishing and maintaining negotiations, developing the proposal, and recently the British Embassy in Turkmenistan allocated \$7,000 to purchase the water truck, which is used to serve more than 3,000 people in seven communities on a regular basis providing each member with an average of 5 liters of water per day. The system of self-sustainability developed by *Sarygamysh* included a membership fee, which is used to meet different goals identified by the board of *Sarygamysh* and to finance truck repairs.

#### ***Saving the Caspian Sea Together***

The limited access to grant funds of various donors is a typical problem for NGOs in Turkmenistan, as they lack the information and skills to communicate with donors and prepare grant applications. Under the World Bank Caspian Environment Program program, Counterpart and Flora and Fauna International elaborated a special training on Project Development and Grant Applications Preparation for ecological NGOs of the Caspian Region's five countries. Counterpart Turkmenistan contributed to the organization and hosting of the training course, which was held in June 2002 for 21 NGO members and volunteers and representatives of governmental ecological organizations. The participants obtained basic skills in preparing grant applications and project design and building effective working relationships with donor agencies. Five organizations from Turkmenistan that participated in the training applied for grant support from various donors. The organization *Turkmen Maritime Lines* was awarded \$70,000 through the World Bank Small Grants Competitions to implement the project "Reduction of Threats to Biodiversity in the Turkmenbashi Bay" in close cooperation with local ecological NGOs.

### **Media/Outreach**

#### ***NGO Promotes its Activities Through the Media***

The Turkmen media has paid very little attention to the activities of NGOs. The Turkmen Association of Journalists *Shamchyrag* has been making efforts to expand the scope of its activities at a regional level. They have encountered various organizational and financial difficulties. *Shamchyrag* finalized an action plan that reflected counseling in organizational development from Counterpart, interviews of clients, beneficiaries, and key organizations, and an organizational development audit. Resources for expanding the Association's activities were identified, 300 local velayats journalists were assembled and trained, and a project was developed and successfully implemented. The Association's membership increased to twenty-five journalists. Four seminars on journalism were organized and conducted for thirty journalists and thirty NGO representatives. As a result, 25 NGOs in the Balkan, Mary, and Lebap velayats improved the quality of their informational materials and secured regular exposure through the local press. Public awareness about social issues and problems increased two to threefold. The velayat NGOs noted an increased interest in their work and reported an additional 150% increase in the number of visitors.

## **Partnership, Coalition –Building and Association Development**

### ***First steps of Turkmen artisans at world market***

Reviving the quality of and demand for Turkmen culture and crafts is a difficult process. Turkmen artisans need support to find, develop, and subsequently sell lost methods of craft-making. Production is extremely time consuming with sales often at low prices. The association *People's craftsmen, trade and decorative souvenirs NUPHIS* is targeting these problems. The association consists of 30 regular artisans and another 40 whom periodically apply for help. Due to participation in Counterpart trainings such as Association Development and Small Business Development, *NUPHIS* is now able to unite artisans, promote experience exchange, and further the professional development of members in areas such as intricate-design, weaving, dyeing, and decorative design. Having expanded their sphere of work in Central Asia, *NUPHIS* is a member of the Central Asian Association for Craft Support and uses the Ashgabat CSSC to communicate with other members. The effective interactions allowed *NUPHIS's* members to participate in three international and two local Craft-Fairs, participants of which earned \$160 to \$300. Two representatives of *NUPHIS* attended trainings held in Kazakhstan and Tajikistan on craft development. UNESCO/Kazakhstan values the high professionalism of Turkmen artisans to such an extent that they will soon publish the book by L. Kiseleva entitled The Technology of Natural Dyeing.

### ***An NGO builds up the cooperation with governmental organizations***

The lack of ecological education, especially in the application of new techniques and approaches, among the school students and the rest of the population is a common problem. For NGOs that could address this problem, the absence of an official registration as required by all governmental organizations is a major obstacle. The NGO *Yashyl* developed and conducted a series of classes on Ecological Games, with Counterpart funding, to increase and improve children's knowledge and practices in the field of ecology. As a follow-on, the NGO conducted a course of workshops on "Team Building and Leadership Skills Development" in several Ashgabat secondary schools. The topic peaked the interest of the students and resulted in growing popularity of the NGO. The city schools administration started inviting the NGO to conduct similar workshops for students in other schools. The NGO has conducted about 20 workshops in different secondary schools. Thanks to the skills obtained through the Social Partnership training of Counterpart, the NGO *Yashyl* successfully established sustainable partnership relationships with the school administrations, and the NGO continues to expand the scope of its activities. At present the NGO just completed a three month work plan to work with the administrations of Ashgabat schools # 6,7,18 and 44.

### ***Professionals of public organization contribute to the joint development of hometown***

The lack of strong relationships between public and state organizations continues to be a hurdle for public organizations trying to realize their potential. At the same time as it is known many kinds of work are not possible to conduct without the discussion or agreement with compliance organizations. *Family, Mercy and Health* of Abadan town gained unique experience on the community work through participating in PCA, Facilitation skills development, Social Partnership trainings. Due to the Counterpart consultations, it successfully conducted PCA for community of block #1 of Abadan town and community implemented the project which has concrete results such as well designed play space for active rest of children. In the process of work it was established good relationships with government and commercial organizations. Hakimlik of the town, acknowledging the positive experience and results of "*Family, Mercy and Health*" organization's work in activating the local community and in social partnership development, invited the leader of the organization to be the member of Committee on town Municipal improvement along with 11 other members: representatives of leading government organizations. NGO suggested proposal on planning and carrying out activities with participation of communities and stakeholders which were supported by Committee. Being the one representative of local communities interests "*Family, Mercy and Health*" organization as a member of Committee started to work on involving in the process of municipal 17 local commercial and state enterprises

## **Advocacy**

### ***The Fruits of Mutual Understanding***

The low level of legal education and knowledge of rights creates a serious problem for refugees defending their rights and interests. Refugees often encounter such problems as high cost for medical and household services, difficulties obtaining a registration and living license, and trying to find employment. The NGO “*Medet*”, recently focused primarily on providing all possible assistance to refugees, identified the urgent need in lobbying on behalf of the interests of refugees. Applying the skills and theoretical knowledge obtained during the Counterpart trainings, such as “Advocacy”, “Conflict Resolution”, “Facilitation Skills Development”, and using the informational resources and other technical support of the Lebap CSSC, “*Medet*” carried out a number of activities for the promotion of rights and interests of refugees in Turkmenistan. They facilitated several meetings and round tables with the purpose of clarifying the status and rights of refugees in Turkmenistan. Among the participants were refugees, consular service representatives and local health care providers. Both parties equally benefited from the meetings. The refugees obtained a better understanding of what rights they have and how they can be applied to living; and governmental organizations managed to make improvements to their work, making it more effective and oriented towards the needs of refugees. As a result, out of fifty families, eighty refugees are now treated as local citizens in health care institutions and unregistered refugees now receive a living license and pay the same apartment fees as local citizens. In addition to having received the living license, refugees acquired access for better employment opportunities. Having achieved these positive results, the refugees do their best to help their peers as well as spread information among the refugee communities.

### **Community Mobilization**

#### ***Successful outcome awakens initiative***

Infrastructure development in remote rural areas is a topical issue and the foremost task for the local population and government. This task implementation is complicated due to a lack of financial and human resources. Activizing and mobilizing the local communities for solving the primary problems continues to be one of the most important issues for the development of civil society. The results of the PCAs conducted on July 2002 by Dashouz CSSC and the NGO *Sarygamysh* in “Leshoz” settlement of “Khakyykat” farmers’ in Dashouz velayat, identified the main problems and initiated the formation of a steering committee comprised of local citizens. The aim of the project was to mobilize the community to repair a high voltage electric main, 2.5 km long. It was implemented with the participation and contribution of the local community, the support of the local governmental structures, and the financial support from Counterpart and “Gok Gushak” joint-stock company. During the implementation process of the project, the community of the neighbouring settlement “*Seylek*” became interested in the outcome and expressed their will to organize the repair of the electric main in their village as well. With the help of the steering committee of the “Leshoz” settlement, whose members obtained specific skills and knowledge as a result of training and other technical assistance from Counterpart, the process of self-organization was initiated in the “*Seylek*” village with seventy local people involved in the decision-making. As a result the members of “*Seylek*” community organized the collection of funds, and the restoration of 600 meters of electric mains was carried out. Ten households in “*Seylek*” now have access to electricity.

#### ***Developing Local Communities and Establishing New Values***

In many rural Turkmen communities, infrastructure repair and social cohesion are in need of urgent attention. The Initiative Group “*Altyn Cheshme*” of Gawers etrap had headed and facilitated the process of uniting the members of a local community in order to solve the top-priority problem of water delivery and supply. Ashgabat CSSC, in cooperation with community representatives, conducted a PCA to identify the needs of the community and their resources. Additionally, the CSSC provided regular consultations on project design and implementation. The successfully completed CAG grant from Counterpart reached the defined needs of the community, which became more proactive and involved. The process has been initiated to ensure joint decision-making in the community; group responsibility and sense of ownership; the community has a new and deeper understanding of the concept of volunteerism; they have developed respect for charitable activities for the benefit of everyone. As a result, community members voluntarily carried out additional charity activities. On New Year’s Eve, the Initiative Group organized and carried out a charity event for orphan children of

school #11 with a talent show, prizes and presents. Warm clothes, sports equipment, and toys were purchased for the 700 children. The cost for this was donated by a local farmer.

## **Uzbekistan**

### **Sustainable Civil Society Organizations**

#### ***NGOs in Kashkadarya have free access to the Internet and a Resource Center.***

The number of NGOs in the last two years has grown from seven to seventeen in Kashkadarya region. The main problem they face at present is the absence of a resource center to promote their development. To solve this problem, Counterpart's focus grantee *International Rehabilitation Center UMID* (Samarkand) took part in the International Access and Training Program (IREX) and won a grant for opening a Public Access Center (PAC). As a result, NGOs in Kashkadarya region will have free access to Internet for the five coming years. They will also have an opportunity to have training in computer skills, including the Internet and web design. With the support of the local authorities and businesses, "*Umid*" Center was able to expand the functions of PAC and make it a Resource Center. Thus, the Khokim's office helped to reconstruct the building bought by Umid; to register it as a nonresidential property and also equip the training hall. Two firms did the renovation free of charge. Now international organizations conduct their trainings in the Resource Center's building, and business structures can rent the training hall for various courses. The international organization CHF agreed upon a six month contract with Umid's branch to establish a Center within the CAIP program using the PAC premises. During the four months of operation the Resource Center earned 70,000 sums, which were used to pay salaries to the administration, for public utilities, and to cover the current expenses of the Center.

#### ***The APLA Fund's Fundraising Campaign Meets its Goals***

The main source of funds for NGOs is foreign foundations. The NGOs seldom use other methods of fundraising. Many NGOs believe fundraising to be "begging". 250 disabled children get treatment in the Children's Neurologic Hospital of Tashkent. Many of them are from poor families, residing in distant oblasts of Uzbekistan and parents practically do not visit them. *The "Apla" Fund* conducted an action "Christmas for sick children!". For that the Fund's volunteers held a fundraising campaign: sent letters to various organizations, organized meetings with representatives of business structures. The Embassies of Japan, Poland, the Ukraine contributed money in the amount of about \$300. Four private bakeries provided various confectioneries. The NGO «Falak Nuri» gave the children warm clothes. As the result of this action 250 disabled children could get New Year presents, ten disabled people had a chance to make some money by packing the presents, the volunteers and staff of the "*Apla*" Fund got first valuable experience in fundraising. The Fund's experience was described in Counterpart's newsletter "Initiative" devoted to fundraising of NGOs. *The "Apla" Fund's* staff participated in Counterpart's basic trainings, including "NGO and Community, "Social Partnership", "Fundraising", "Work with Volunteers in NGOs". *The Fund* gets regular information and technical support and consultations from Counterpart's CSSC.

#### ***Barkamollik Center Becomes Information Resource Center for Crisis Centers in Uzbekistan***

About thirty Crisis and Trust Centers have been opened for the last three years in Uzbekistan. However, the Centers did not have qualified psychologists and there were not methodologies developed for work with victims of violence, adapted to the conditions of the region. The Crisis Centers staff could not provide effective help to their clients. For three years "*Barkamollik*" Center has been working on capacity building of crisis Centers. With the support from the USA Embassy and the Soros Foundation the Center published "Psychological counseling based on Virginia Satir's methodology" in the Uzbek and the Russian languages and trained 45 staff of 27 Crisis Centers to develop their skills in individual psychological counseling. Later on the six of those Crisis Centers trained 500 more people – staff and volunteers of Crisis Centers. The Soros Foundation having recognized *the Center* as the leader in training specialists for Crisis Centers, invited it to be a partner in establishing Information-methodological Resource Center for psychologists of Crisis Centers. The Resource Center developed and published six guidelines for psychologists and provided with them all

Crisis Centers of Uzbekistan. Also sixty psychologists for Crisis Centers have been trained. The project monitoring has shown that about 300 people received qualified psychological help in the ten Crisis Centers in the course of three months work of the Resource Center. *The "Barkamollik" Center* was focal NGO in the second phase of Counterpart's Program, the Center's leaders trained in practically all the Counterpart's workshops. Two leaders of *the Center* are Counterpart's trainers. The Center regularly receives technical support and consultations both from Counterpart and the Tashkent CSSC.

### ***Revival of the Silk Road: from Gijduvan to Italy***

*Narzullaev's Fund* in Gijduvan (50 km away from Bukhara) under the support from Counterpart revives and develops such crafts as traditional Gijduvan ceramics and national embroidery. However, the craftsmen had big difficulties when trying to sell their products. The main reason for this being absence of advertisement and communication with their partners. The CSSC in Bukhara provided *the Fund* with the equipment (a computer and a scanner) and taught the staff of *the Fund* to use e-mail, Internet and other software, helped to develop an Internet homepage and to place it in the site [www.bukhara.net](http://www.bukhara.net). The CSSC also assisted to develop advertisements and to correspond with business partners. As a result *the Fund* prepared an electronic album with photos of their goods and sent it to the interested people. A consignment of handicraft goods was sent to the artisans fair in Italy, where it was sold for the amount of 4800 US\$. At present the representatives of *the Fund* conduct negotiations with partners from Great Britain and USA regarding sending a consignment of goods. As a result of using established communication links and getting consultative and technical support from the CSSC more than 50 artisans got an opportunity to sell their goods and to raise their family budget.

### **Volunteerism**

#### ***New Knowledge and Skills Obtained by Samarkand CSSC Volunteers Help them Find Paid Jobs***

One of the most topical issues in the majority of NGOs is lack of professional staff and shortage of resources, in particular, human resources. At the same time there are many unemployed among the young people, since even after graduating from higher educational establishments they find it difficult to get a job because they do not have practical experience. *Counterpart's Samarkand CSSC* involves young people in its activity in order to develop volunteer movement in the Samarkand region. Database comprising 22 volunteers have been created. The volunteers help in the work both of the CSSC and other NGOs at their requests. The CSSC volunteers participate in the trainings of Counterpart Consortium. They learn to work with clients, develop consulting skills, learn to work on computers and other office equipment. This allows them to provide qualified services to the CSSC clients. The experience and additional skills obtained by the volunteers help them to find paid jobs.

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### **Social Partnership**

#### ***Women's Center "Ikhlos" Solves Rural Problems***

Unemployment and the low standard of living are the most acute social problems, particularly in the rural regions, of Uzbekistan. *The Women's Center "Ikhlos"* in Khorezm region under a Counterpart project, trained sixty girls in culinary and sewing skills. After the project's completion, six girls began paid jobs and five girls registered themselves as private businesswomen (four of which have already

received \$450 in credit). As a result, the *Center* established a close partnership with governmental and business structures; the local Khokim's office sold the kindergarten complex (four one-storied buildings) to the center at a significant discount. The joint-stock company "*Belmotorservice*" gave the *Center* with two million sums (about \$1,800 USD) for the purchase of the buildings and renovated them free of charge. The firm "*Alenushka*" provided a broiler and a refrigerated cabinet. Due to its strong capacity, the *Center* has won two grants for the amount of \$12,000. Soros Foundation supported the project by establishing the culinary courses for girls. The district department of public education cooperated with the *Center* in finding clients for the goods. The *Center* can now supply five rural schools with their confectionery. With the support of the Eurasia Foundation, one hundred women and girls (among them sixty who were trained in sewing by Counterpart's project) will acquire the knowledge necessary to develop a small business. They will be supported with the registration and development of their small-scale enterprises. The *Center's* leaders received basic Counterpart trainings and regularly receive support from Khoresm CSSC.

### ***NGO Representative Becomes First Third Sector Member of the Plenum of Women's Committees in the Samarkand Region***

Every local Khokim's office has a women's committee as part of its structure. The women's committees report to the Plenum of Women's Committees of the oblast. The Plenum determines the strategy of work on gender issues in the region. Up to now the Plenum of Women's committees in the Samarkand region comprised only of representatives of governmental structures. This did not allow for adequate reflection and appropriate responses to women's problems in the region. At the suggestion of the oblast Khokim's office, the director of *International Rehabilitation Center UMID*, Bibisara Oripova, was made a member of the Plenum of Women's committees of the Samarkand region. This decision is in recognition of the *Umid Center's* achievements in solving the problems of rural women, particularly in preventing domestic violence and cases of self-burning. *International Rehabilitation Center UMID* is Counterpart's focus grantee.

### ***The problem of utilizing wastes in the city of Samarkand will be solved thanks to the initiative of the NGO "Poisk"***

The problem of utilizing organic wastes is an acute problem in the city of Samarkand. In the conditions of hot climate the process of rotting is very intensive and presents an ecological problem for the population. The situation is aggravated by the fact that not a single organization – city authorities or business structure- can solve the problem separately, since the problem is multi-pronged and requires the efforts of various experts. *The NGO "Poisk"*, which was set up under influence of Counterpart's workshops, established partnerships with the firm "Doim Tayer" and governmental structure - the Committee on environment protection. The partners found a unique way to solve the problem – processing organic wastes into fertilizers and feed for cattle. They developed a project, supported by Soros Foundation. "Doim Tayer" provides chemicals for processing the organic wastes for the amount of 650 thousand soums (about 600 US\$) as well as technical consultations. The Committee on environment protection will be responsible for the project implementation on behalf of the government. Counterpart's CSSC provided consultative and technical support to the *NGO "Poisk"* while designing the project, in particular, having provided accommodation, having helped with organizing and conducting Round Table and other discussions. The CSSC also gave advice on developing the project proposal.

### ***TV in Djizak informs the population on NGOs***

Djizak region is a steppe region of Uzbekistan with the least population density. And the population is not active. Only three NGOs worked quite actively in the region in 2001. The population's awareness about the NGOs activity was very low. In 2002 Counterpart started to regularly conduct workshops for NGOs and initiative groups in the region. *Muzaffar Usarov*, editor of the program at private TV "Bakhtiyer-Shakhboz" in Djizak region took an active part in those trainings. They encouraged him to widely inform the community on the social problems in the region and on the NGOs' activity. With the consultative support of the CSSC trainers he designed a project on developing social video reels, which was supported by the Fund Eurasia. 18 social video reels were made, each of them is shown daily on Djizak TV about 20-30 times. *Muzaffar Usarov* made a program on PCA conducted in

Makhalla “Eshlik” of the town of Djizak. The program included interviews with the group of analytical experts, trainers and workshop participants. He also recorded the workshop “Strategic planning”. All the programs with comments on the significance of the third sector activity including the work done by Counterpart were repeatedly shown on Dhizak TV. As a result the population’s awareness on NGOs’ activity has considerably increased. The evidence of this is the number of newly registered NGOs in the region and the community’s interest to their work. Now, 15 NGOs and a number of Initiative Groups are actively working in Djizak. If previously the Samarkand CSSC conducted in Djizak mostly workshops “NGO and Community”, “Project Design”, now there is a need in more advanced trainings which aim to develop organizations’ sustainability.

### **Partnership, Coalition –Building and Association Development**

#### ***The APLA Fund Establishes Partnership to Solve Problems of Disabled People’s Education***

Many disabled people are left out of the larger society because they do not have professional and practical skills. They have to depend on allowances from the government and humanitarian assistance of various organizations. *APLA, The fund supporting people with disabilities*, conducted a PCA with a group of disabled people. The main problem identified was non-accessibility of information and education resources. Libraries, information resource centers, educational institutions, public transport are not adjusted for the needs of the disabled people. *The APLA fund* with technical and financial support of Counterpart, the Embassy of Poland and the NGO Status conducted a round table in February 2003. The outcome was the development of program aiming to create a network of Centers for Support of Disabled People and to provide free access to the existing information and education resources. Seventeen organizations (governmental, businesses, NGOs and international organizations) are involved in this program. The first step is setting up of computer courses with free access to Internet for disabled people, including disabled students, in students’ hostels. This project is supported by the German Adult Education Association, Counterpart, Soros Foundation and the Institute of Secondary Special and Vocational Education (SSVE) of Uzbekistan, which provides fifteen computers. The first Center of Information and Educational Support for disabled people will be set up in the Sheikhtaur district of Tashkent. An Information Newsletter (500 copies) about educational programs will be delivered to disabled people with problems of movement by volunteers. This Center will be provided by information by such NGOs as “Open Library of Legal Literature”, “Status” and others. In the future such Centers should be set up in the others districts. An agreement was reached with the Institute of SSVE that a system of distance education for disabled people should be developed on the basis of these Centers.

#### ***Network Project of the Medical Coalition in Bukhara Receives Financial Support***

NGOs do not usually work jointly, they see in each other competitors when requesting grants and they do not share information about their projects. Six medical NGOs in Bukhara region (“*Association of pediatricians*” and its five branches, “*Association of young doctors*”, “*Medical information-resource center*”, “*Volunteers center*”, “*Doctors for a healthy way of life*” and “*Association shark tabobati* (of oriental medicine)”) signed a constitutive agreement in August 2002 thus setting up a Coalition of medical NGOs in Bukhara region aiming to join their efforts for solving various social problems in the region. *The “Association of pediatricians*”, Counterpart’s focus grantee, coordinates the work of the Coalition. The Coalition’s first network project got financial support from Soros Foundation in the amount of 5, 510.00 USD. Within this project the representatives of the Coalition train the staff of 40 private hotels and other organizations working in the sphere of tourism to provide first medical help. The guidelines on providing first before-doctor medical help are published. It is also planned to educate private doctors and to set up dispatcher telephone service. The implementation of this project will help to raise the level of tourist industry in Bukhara and thus to raise the residents’ living standard.

### **Community Mobilization**

#### ***Women’s Reproductive Health Awareness Increases in the Rural Areas of Ferghana Valley***

The lack of doctors’ training on issues of reproductive health, in particular, in far away and rural areas hinders providing quality health services to the local population. This problem is particularly acute in Ferghana valley. The medical rural NGO “*Avitsenna*”, established in the framework of the program of

*The Regional Center of Social-Legal Support of Women and Teenagers "Ishonch"*, Counterpart's focal grantee, conducted workshops devoted to dietology of pregnant women, breast feeding and other issues of reproductive health. 37 patients and 2 doctors from the maternity ward of the Central Rayon Hospital, the only one in rural Kuvinskiy Rayon, were trained. Information corner on reproductive health was created in the maternity ward after the workshop. The hospital management will be in charge for updating the information. At present the two doctors trained at the workshop provide trainings to the patients on a regular basis. More than 45 000 women and girls are the potential clients of this maternity ward of the Hospital.

### ***Rural women in Shafrikan have regular earnings***

Economic reforms in agriculture and reorganization of collective farms into shirkat farms have lead to reducing jobs and growth of unemployment. This was identified as a priority problem during PCA conducted in the villages of "Savrak" and "Shurobod" of Shafrikan district in Bukhara region. *The Initiative group* in these villages developed a project aimed to revive traditional "shafrikan" embroidery. The project was financially supported by Counterpart. The residents in both villages took an active part in the development and implementation of the project. As a result the Initiative group was registered with the Department of Justice as *Center for Support of Rural Population*. Embroidery workshop was opened in the building of the "Savrak" village council. About seventy women, trained to make traditional Shafrikan embroidery, were provided jobs and have regular earnings. The best of them took part in the annual fair of entrepreneurs "Tashabbus" where they won the first award. Thus, 70 families could enlarge their family budget by twice. The Bukhara CSSC helped with conducting PCA and developing the communities plan of action, regularly provided the NGO with information, consultative and technical support. The NGO leaders participated in Counterpart's basic workshops.

## C. Hub Center Activity Overview

### Regional Overview

#### Organizational Development

During the quarter, Counterpart focused on building hub and support centers' capacity and sustainability by providing intensive organization development consulting for Counterpart Tajikistan. This consultancy is based on participatory methods: staff and OD consultants work together to determine the goals for the consultancy, gather and analyze data, set goals for development, and plan the follow-up process. During the consultancies, data was gathered from hub center staff, clients (Support Centers, focus and target NGOs), donors and partners, and government structures using a variety of methods (observation, individual and group interviews, reviewing reports and other materials, and a confidential staff survey). The OD consultants then facilitated all-staff meetings during which staff analyzed the data, set goals for development, and established Change Management Teams who are leading their colleagues in taking action to implement the goals.

Akmal Rustamov, OD Coordinator from Uzbekistan was involved in the consultancies as OD consultant. His participation in this OD consultancy gave him a great opportunity to add to his experience and strengthen his consulting skills.

As a result of this intensive consultancy, hub center has decided to update their Strategic Plan, and the consultants are following up to assist the country in doing so. Tajik Hub center decided to conduct retreat with staff devoted to staff development and designing Strategic Plan according the current situation.

The Regional Country Directors meeting in February provided an opportunity for all countries to share their progress towards localization and sustainability. The following steps have been made towards hub center localization:

- A local Country Directors is fully in charge of all country operations in 5 Hub Centers.
- In all Hub Centers, a Senior Management Team is established which responsible for the management for the Hub Center. It meets regularly, sets goals and priorities, coordinates work, and solves problems.
- Hub Centers in Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan were registered as a local organization. Kazakhstan' and Uzbekistan' Hub Centers submitted all relevant documents to the Ministry of Justice and will get official registration very soon.

Finally, due to the 3-month program extension regional OD Work Plan was developed which compiled in Regional Work Plan for April-June 2003.

#### Community Outreach

For the reporting period the Feasibility Assessment (FA) on Community Network Development (CND) was one of the most remarkable events. The aim of the FA was to research the conditions, possibilities and community needs to establish community networks. CND is considered as the efficient mechanism of making community development sustainable. It is a logical sequence of Community mobilization process Counterpart has been carrying out in the Central Asian countries. The network is considered as a tool to empower communities, which have already been engaged in process of identifying their priority problems and ways to solve them in order to efficiently handle larger, deeper social problems.

Community networks are supposed to be new agencies to stimulate people in seeking changes, challenging local governments and businesses to fulfill their obligations towards positive societal

development. Along with the networks of the CSSCs they will be operating synergic towards achieving sustainable positive changes in development.

Based on its own experience and on those of other partners, particularly on the expertise of Rural Community Network, Northern Ireland, Counterpart outlined a strategy to develop community networks in CAR. The FA was conducted as a part of Counterpart's strategy of Community Network Development.

The FA was conducted in the period from mid-February to end-March 2003. Almost all CSSCs participated actively in the process. The total amount of people interviewed throughout the region was 2801, 238 facilitators conducted the assessment.

As operation areas the communities were chosen with successful previous projects results, functioning and active initiative groups. The FA was based on PCA methodology. The reason of choosing it was that this methodology enables wide participations through outreach to all key stakeholders, makes possible a rapid collection of objective information, and there is a pool of skilled facilitators to conduct the procedure. The CSSCs were provided with consultation, coaching on conducting the FA by the regional office and the Hub centers. The Community Outreach Program Coordinators facilitated some FA. Upon fulfilling of the process they submitted the field reports, and combined analytical country reports.

The most essential finding had been people's initiative and willingness to network in almost all communities where FAs were conducted. Communities have been willing to share within network all kinds of resources, as they believe this would contribute to solving of bigger problems systematically rather than occasional and sporadic help in cases of need. The FA has also provided with information on priority problems network could efficiently solve, forms of possible network and other significant information.

Based on the results of the assessment further strategy of establishing and developing networks will be defined. The upcoming regional training in Community Network Development with participation of program staff will be aimed at elaborating of our further strategy.

All Hub offices have been actively involved in the process of formalizing the Volunteer Management and conveying this expertise to the CSSCs. This includes establishing of operational DB on volunteers, volunteer recruitment process, development of volunteer activity work plans in coordination with those of the centers, establishment of volunteer clearing houses and clubs. The Volunteer Forum to be held in Ashgabad in May 2003 will be a remarkable event to strengthen CSSCs and other civic organizations capacities in promoting volunteering, engaging government in supporting volunteerism in Turkmenistan. In the framework of the forum the participants will develop community-linked volunteer program and be acquainted with the best practices of working volunteer programs.

Community Outreach program coordinators have been following up the regional CO-workshop with workshops and consultations on conducting Advocacy campaigns based on successful campaigns in the area. The main focus is being put on sustainability of the results achieved. Discussions with participation of partner and focus NGOs, local governments and mass media at series of round tables resulted in making government representatives more supportive towards civic organizations' activities in promoting and protecting grassroots interests, and the NGOs get the opportunity to learn more about achievements of their counterparts in the frame of Advocacy.

Within the framework of promoting Social Partnership establishing of public councils where the CSSCs and NGOs act as partners to be heard by governing administrations at solving local social problems has been developing positively. Public councils activities are aimed at strengthening partnership links to joint recourses and develop joint action plans for future activities. Round tables organized by CSSCs in Tajikistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan have been resulting in

establishing of a basis for several NGOs to better coordinate their activities, thus making possible establishing of coalitions. So, there is an increasing tendency towards synergy of outcomes of both Advocacy and Social Partnership efforts with much stronger impact on development of civil society.

## **Monitoring and Evaluation**

***Integration of PCA data into the MIS/Database.*** 493 PCA reports from five countries have been collected into Regional Database at the beginning of this quarter. The Regional MIS has been designed for the most important part of information provided by CSSCs from the field community appraisals. The MIS currently shows the proportion of rural and urban communities covered by program interventions for each country. It shows that some countries focus their interventions more heavily in rural areas (like KG), the others in urban areas (like KZ), and this reflects the situation with the urban and rural population in countries and the settlement pattern. The MIS also displays typology of community priority problems for each country with the division for two types of communities, rural and urban. The frequently reported problems faced by communities and displayed through MIS are their needs in basic living conditions: potable or irrigation water, schools, employment, roads, health care, etc. Along with these needs, the needs in information and knowledge distribution, cooperation with those sharing equal interests, skills building, income-generating activities, organizing leisure and sports and their satisfaction are the priority ones for CAR communities, which could be noticed from data observation. The MIS also tracks CAP status in communities, and grants awarded in these communities.

***Developing CAG MIS.*** In this quarter, the process of CAG project evaluation data collection for regional Database has been started in five Hub centers. The role of M&E coordinators and Grant Managers in Hubs has been to ensure the quality of project data insertion. To the date, Regional Database on CAG Evaluations contains 126 Close-Out Evaluation Reports and 40 Follow-Up Evaluation Reports. The process of filling MIS with project evaluation data will continue till June. After collecting the first evaluation reports, the MIS and Web interface for displaying project evaluation outcomes have been developed and now the MIS is placed on Web-site. Short Evaluation Summary, contained in MIS, presents evaluation findings for the presented number of projects. Based on the statistics given, the implemented CAG program, which can be considered as the main tool of community mobilization and outreach, can be evaluated against key program indicators, as the sustainability of the project after 6 months since projects' completion, changes in number of beneficiaries, an average number of beneficiaries per project, the measures of actual contributions made by partners and especially, by communities, and other important information. It could be seen from data how communities perceive what institutions are credible for their priority problem solving, or organizational development occurred during and after projects' implementation. The MIS should help improve further the program management by making transparent important project implementation information.

***Other Program Activities.*** The outcomes from PCA and CAG Evaluations' data analysis were presented during the CD meeting on February 25-27, 2003. At the end of this quarter, the M&E regional workplan for additional three months has been developed. During this quarter, regional M&E staff conducted monitoring visit to Kostanai CSSC. The visit to one project site and participatory M&E for community action grant project, implemented at Kostanai CSSC, was conducted during this time period.

## **Kazakhstan**

### **Training Highlights**

During the reporting period, Counterpart's six training modules *NGO Management, Fundraising, Strategic Planning, Project Design, NGO & Community* and *PCA* were translated to Kazakh. Having local requirements and a capacity to deliver seminars in the state language, Qaraghandy CSSC

*ECOCENTER* was provided by above-noted training modules. It's expected to receive the Center's feedback on modules view in April 2003.

The regional meeting of Training Coordinators from five Central Asian states was held on January 20 – 21 in the office of *ZHALGHAS-Counterpart* and covered the following issues:

- Training program implementation (indicators achievement);
- Localization of the training program (presentations);
- Challenges for the training program implementation (recommendations);
- Strategic planning;
- Quality service improvement;
- Database & information management system to monitor and manage the program;
- Training modules development;

The meeting resulted in design of trainings list and plan on modules improvement, and revision of strategies, objectives and methods to achieve planned indicators. To ensure a proper coordination of the training program, the participants made a decision to hold the regular meetings on quarterly basis.

Counterpart's contract trainers: Andrey Andreyev (*Legal Initiative*) and Almat Kaibzhanov (*Association of Qostanai NGOs*) conducted *Membership Development* advanced training on March 11 – 12 in Almaty (Karghaly Sanatorium) addressed to the representatives of Counterpart's Support Centers and focus organizations.

The regional training on *Membership Development* was conducted on January 22 – 25 in the local Almaty Sanatorium. The main issues were defining a membership organization and its clients, and consideration of financial sustainability. The following participants represented the country:

- Almat Kaibzhanov (Association of Qostanai Oblast NGOs);
- Andrey Andreyev (Legal Initiative);
- Galina Ol'khovskaya (Diabetes Association of the Republic of Kazakhstan);
- Timur Chalobaev (Counterpart Kazakhstan).

Monitoring of the training programs was performed in the Support Centers of *ZHALGHAS-Counterpart* (January 28 – 31), Semey *IRIS* (March 3 – 4) and Oskemen *ZUBR* (March 6 – 7) on and included:

- Evaluation of the training on *Constituency Building* (in Almaty);
- Meetings with the CSSC' employees, clients, partners and trainers;
- Review of documentation on the training program;
- Analysis of the training database to trace implementation of indicators.

Round table meetings with associates, their beneficiaries and partners resulted in a number of recommendations for the training program being performed in the Support Center *IRIS*; that are a development of modules for financial managers, publication and distribution of the training schedule, and delivery of Kazakh modules.

Information on training indicators implementation was presented to CSSC associates during CSSC Quarterly meeting, held in Almaty:

*Table of training modules, delivered by CSSC (by January 2003)*

	SMEDA	IRIS	ECO CENTER	SUBR	ASTRa	ZHALGHAS	QOSTANAI	Total
<b>BASIC</b>								
NGO & Community	2	2	trainers	3	2	13	8	30
NGO Management	3	2	trainers	2	2	5	2	16
Project Design	6	4	1	7	6	11	7	42
Strategic Planning	2	2	trainers	5	2	4	1	16

Public Education through the Media	2	1	trainers	2	2	2	1	10
Association Development	scheduled	1	trainers	scheduled	1	scheduled	scheduled	2
Financial Management	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	8
Financial Sustainability	1	scheduled	trainers	2	1	2	1	7
Human Resource Management	1	1	trainers	2	1	1	1	7
Team Building/Conflict Management	1	1	trainers	3	3	2	1	11
Newsletter Development	scheduled	1	trainers	conducted in 2000	1	1	1	4
Constituency Development	1	1	trainers	conducted in 2000	3	2	1	8
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>2*</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>159</b>
<b>ADVANCED</b>								
Fundraising	2	1	trainers	2	3	11	2	21
Advocacy	2	1	1	1	2	3	1	11
Social Partnership	3	2	trainers	2	1	3	1	12
Governance	1	scheduled	scheduled	designer	1	1	1	4
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>48</b>
<b>Other trainings</b>								
PCA	4	2	1	2	1	7	3	20
Volunteer Management	1	2	1	6	1	1		12
Organization of Press Conference					1	1		2
Other Workshop			1		1	1		3
TOT						2		2
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>39</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>248</b>
Number of modules	<b>14</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>	

**NOTE:** *Trainers* – number of qualified trainers in the CSSC;  
*Scheduled* – planned training sessions till the end of June 2003;  
*Designer* – training modules were designed by the Center staff;

### Organizational Development

- The reporting period included series of staff meetings on the organizational Strategic planning, Action Plan design, overview of the program activities, work scheme, objectives for the following three months and discussion of newly announced guidelines of donor agencies.
- January 8, a Senior Management Team (SMT) meeting covered the issues of organizing a *Strategic Planning* seminar, Human Resource Development (HRD) plan and other management issues. A Country Director, Senior Program Officer and Chief Accountant have analyzed results of HRD questionnaire survey and designed a staff development plan.
- Alibi Jangildin (Zhalghas Director) and Askhat Bekzhanov (Project & Report Designer) worked on the project proposal on *Eco Tourism*. The workgroup designed a logical frame and major sections according to TACIS guidelines. The project's is to be submitted by May 2003.
- The 4<sup>th</sup> assessment of organizational & institutional development of Counterpart's focus NGOs and CSSCs was completed in the reporting period. Total growth in the organizational capacity of focus NGOs for 2001 – 2003 comprised 23,74%.
  - *Association Young Leaders* (AYL) developed cooperation with Soros-Kazakhstan Fund and took part in design of UNICEF' yearly strategy. A Chairman of AYL became a National

Coordinator of the program *Global Education*. In general, the Association comes along in development of its regional branches.

- *Diabetic Association of the Republic of Kazakhstan (DARK)* developed partnership with the state bodies, namely Ministry of Public Health of the Republic of Kazakhstan and plans to expand its programs to the Central Asian region. Internally, the NGO is on the way of its transformation from association of legal entities into status of public organization. Given issue is to be settled at the general meeting of the organization's members.
- Public Fund *SMEDA* is actively involved in small & medium business development and plans to start implementing TACIS project on training of managers of commercial enterprises. Recently, the Fund faced rise of rental price as real estate owner increased a fee from 500 KZT (\$3,3) up to 1000 KZT (\$6,6) per square meter. In general, the CSSC serves as one of the leaders in the regional non-profit sector and develops a close cooperation with municipal & oblast state bodies.
- Association of Legal Entities *ZHALGHAS-Counterpart* took an active part in new projects design (proposal on *Eco Tourism*) in cooperation with the Hub office staff members and in the development of Counterpart's strategic planning. In addition, *ZHALGHAS* implements its informational project on creation of NGO web site, financed by the World Bank.
- Public organization *IRIS* held a round table meeting that resulted in recommendations for the training program being performed in the Support Center; that are a development of modules for financial managers, publication of the training schedule, and delivery of Kazakh modules. Despite the shortage in human resources, *IRIS'* activity and its impact on the community development were highly acknowledged by the state officials. As an active regional player in rural organizational development, the CSSC signed a partnership agreement with a British organization *Mouchel* to execute \$20,000 project *Sustainable Land-Use* financed by DFID.
- Socio-Corporative Fund *ZUBR* developed a thorough database on East Kazakhstan's NGO sector. In partnership with Oblast Department of Information & Public Accord, *ZUBR* conducts a project to raise public awareness about non-profit sector through local mass media sources. Consequently, municipal and oblast officials gave their appreciation for the activity done by the Center. In fundraising plan, the CSSC designed and submitted two project proposals to Soros-Kazakhstan Fund and the World Bank.
- January 13<sup>th</sup> Case Management meeting of the country staff – Marat Aitmagambetov (Country Director), Jamila Asanova (Senior Program Officer), Dana Amanova (Grant Manager), Nurlan Sakhanov (OD Program Coordinator) and Timur Chalobaev (Training Coordinator) covered analysis of Counterpart's consulting in organizational development of partner NGOs and the Support Centers and development of related further action plan for the next three months. A special report was submitted to the Regional OD Coordinator.
- On March 20, the meeting with focus NGOs summarized OD assessment, performed for two years period and showed the increase of their organizational capacity by 23,74%. Partners were advised of Counterpart's action plan for March – June 2003. Besides, Valentina Sevryukova, a President of Confederation of NGOs of Kazakhstan (CNOK), informed the meeting participants about organization of the National NGO Forum that is to be held in June in Astana by Administration of the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan.
- Results of the 4<sup>th</sup> assessment of organizational development and analysis of OD consulting process (2000 –2002) were presented at CSSC Quarterly meeting. The final assessment showed a growth in the organizational capacity by 16,09%.

### **Community Outreach**

During the reporting period, Counterpart Kazakhstan implemented the following tasks within the framework of Community Outreach program development:

1. NGOs' and communities' capacity strengthening in the program reporting system;
2. Assisting CSSCs' in organization of program activity through conducting consultations, monitoring site visits, and quarterly meetings;
3. Assisting CSSCs' in conducting of research on community network development;
4. CSSCs' capacity strengthening in advocacy through conducting follow-ups.

### ***1. NGOs' and communities' capacity strengthening in the program reporting system.***

Being reviewed by a Community Outreach Coordinator, NGOs' reports met the requirements and format, earlier designed in the Hub office. The new standards enabled Counterpart's Coordinator to picture a project's components, particularly, work volume and indicators achievement, and to define objectives for final and follow-up evaluations. 11 CAG final reports displayed the completion of the following projects being implemented in Semey region:

- *Window Repairs in the School (Togzhan initiative group);*
- *Sanitary and Domestic Improvements (The Minors Rehabilitation Center);*
- *Moidodyr (Podrostok initiative group);*
- *Green Home (Elders Home #3);*
- *Health Center for Deaf Children (initiative group of parents and the Boarding School).*

The reports covered activities of the initiative groups on community mobilization, volunteerism, organization of meetings and partnership with local state & business structures. In addition, above-mentioned project reports showed mass media outreach components, including publication of newspapers articles and photo materials, and other information papers.

In Oskemen region, the following projects corresponded the planned objectives:

- *The Neighborhood's Fitness Club Building (Women's Support Center Nezabudka);*
- *"Focus" Fitness Center Building (public organization Zelyonaya Ulitsa – Green Street);*
- *Information & Entertainment Center for Sight-Impaired and Blind People (Brail initiative group).*

In Qostanai region, due to the project *Development of Folk Art* (initiative group of Kazakh repatriates from Mongolia – public organization *Oralman*), 48 families of Kazakh repatriates were able to set an organization of their own that required thoroughly set financial issues to ensure its further sustainable development.

In Almaty region, in the framework of *Greenhouse Building* project by NGO *Aq Bota*, the community mobilization & cooperation with international agencies (MASHAV, Israel Embassy, UNICEF) through consultations of *ZHALGHAS*-Counterpart resulted in building of three complexes in addition to two planned greenhouses.

### ***2. Assisting CSSCs in organization of program activity through conducting site visits, consultations, and quarterly meetings***

On February 9 – 12, Community Outreach Coordinator visited Aqtobe CSSC *SMEDA* to conduct follow-up advocacy, CAG monitoring & evaluation, and monitoring of the program activities, including monthly reporting, database and implementation of the program components. Three CAG projects were monitored on participatory basis: *Basement Repair* (by initiative group under leadership of Ms. Dina Shanina, 282 Zhubanovs Street, Aqtobe), *Storage of Drinking Water* (by public organization *Kamkorshy*) and *Major Repairs of Roof* (by the consumers' cooperative *Natasha*). The CSSC and its volunteers provided target communities with technical support and consultations in project design and organization of trainings.

- *Storage of Drinking Water* in Shubarkuduk (210 km away from Aqtobe) of Temir County is under implementation by public organization *Kamkorshy* managed by Mr. Khamit Kyrkymbaev. Major construction has been accomplished, and the entire project requires roof building, power supply and additional in-door overhaul. The project initiative group was recommended to put additional efforts in community mobilization process and develop, in coordination with *SMEDA*, mechanisms to ensure the project sustainability. The CSSC was advised to conduct additional monitoring of the project completion process.
- The consumers' cooperative *Natasha* has implemented the project *Major Repairs of Roof* with 1,296 square meters (5 Eset Batyr Street, Khromtau, 100 km away from Aqtobe). The monitoring showed appropriate completion of the project that improved living conditions in the local community. The project realization strengthened relationship with local government and NGOs through cooperation with akimat, consumers' cooperative and its association. The project

executives were recommended to learn and utilize community mobilization tools to ensure the project sustainable development and to initiate other community actions. The CSSC was advised to train and consult the members of active consumers' cooperatives in community outreach, strategic planning and fundraising to improve their work with local population.

March 24 – 28, a site visit to Astana CSSC *ASTRa* was aimed to monitor the program implementation (incl. report and database), consult and participate in local Grant Committee of March 28 and in M&E training of March 25 – 26. The Grant Committee approved 1 (*Social Center – Aidyn* by the initiative group of Zarechnyi Village) out of 4 proposed projects. A review of the CSSC activity showed strengthening of social partnership with state bodies, business structures and mass media, and of sustainable development of community outreach program. The visit resulted in joint design of work plan (up to June 2003) on community program.

Analysis of community outreach indicators and network building were included in the agenda of CSSC Quarterly meeting. Therefore, a data on PCA, CAP, CAG, advocacy campaigns and volunteerism (up to February 2003) was collected and presented to Counterpart staff and CSSC members. At large, the data analysis displayed a correspondence between the volume of work done by CSSCs and community outreach indicators designed by the Hub office. In this way, total number of PCA, conducted by the Support Centers, is 149 researches and 91 CAP in the period of January 2001 – January 2003. Besides, the CSSCs rendered assistance to the formation of 38 coalitions and in implementation of 32 social projects, as well as in conducting of 29 advocacy campaigns at local and oblast levels. Over 570 volunteers have been engaged in the Centers' activity, and 224 have been assigned for the assistance in regional NGOs and communities.

### ***3. Assisting CSSCs' in conducting of research on community network development.***

A coordination of CSSC activities in PCA was aimed at research of prospects for community network development in the regions. The study resulted in identification of target communities and study format design (criteria, instructions, reporting, questionnaire) that was developed by Nurlan Zhumabekov. Total 7 researches in 6 regions were conducted in mainly rural communities, and subsequent reports were submitted by the end of February. Preliminary data that shows perspective capacity for community network development in the country was submitted to Regional Community Outreach Coordinator.

A complete report on community network research was compiled by March 14, and covered 5 rural and 2 urban communities in 6 Oblasts of Almaty, Aqmola, Aqtobe, Qaraghandy, Qostanai and East Kazakhstan with participation of target groups totaled 163 people (54 men and 109 women at the age of 15 – 78). Consequently, a Community Outreach Coordinator's comments and recommendations were aimed to clarify and summarize prospects for community network building in the rural and urban regions; namely, there is a capacity to create network structures in focused rural areas, evidenced by the presence of stable social ties among the communities and their initial skills in problems decision making. For instance, such community networks may be formed with focus on gender or professional principles (farming, education, funding, advocacy, small business, non-profit activity, out-door action, etc.).

On January 31, Nurlan Zhumabekov and Galym Zhukupbayev (Zhalghas' Program Coordinator) facilitated the research on *Needs Appraisal and Prospects of Community Networks* in Incubator community of Talghar County, Almaty Oblast. Divided into three groups, over 35 locals (gender balance: 60% of women and 40% men) participated in the research, including representatives of two neighbor villages – Ryskulov and Birlik. Given community was selected due to the following criteria that were jointly designed by the Country and Regional offices:

- The community has successfully implemented 2 projects in the framework of Counterpart program;
- The community designed its perspective *Community Action Plan* (CAP);

- The community interacts and cooperates with state bodies (County Akimat) and other county communities.

Prior to the community research, preliminary meetings (January 22, 27) with the community leaders were held to discuss related action plan and objectives, to compile list of participants and to define analysis tools. Ultimately, the research revealed a presence of the common socio-economic problems that need to be solved by joint efforts of neighboring communities, consequently, through organizing a network for further coordinated mobilization.

#### **4. CSSCs' capacity strengthening in advocacy through conducting follow-ups.**

On February 11, in the framework of NGO Round Table, advocacy follow-up was facilitated by Community Outreach Coordinator and involved 12 representatives of Aqtobe NGOs and officials of Oblast Department of Information and Public Accord. The meeting resulted in common agreement to create a Democracy House for NGOs' regular gatherings and to consolidate non-profit sector in realization of local legislative base *On Social Protection*.

- In Aqtobe Oblast, public organization *Pokolenie* ("Generation") conducted campaigns that resulted in the provision of sanatorium spa treatment for 280 Aqtobe veterans of the Great Patriotic War. In addition, due to the organization efforts, the clinic for war veterans was not given to private business. Then, after the rise of public utilities fees, the NGO applied to local Anti-monopoly committee and Oblast Akimat, and as result, was able to secure previous rates.

In coordination with Galym Zhukupbayev (Zhalghas Coordinator), Nurlan Zhumabekov conducted advocacy follow-up (February 21) addressed to representatives of *ZHALGHAS*' 8 target NGOs that are actively involved in advocacy activities. The follow-up comprised work plan design, an analysis of the advocacy lessons, and of social issues that required organization of advocacy campaigns and mass media outreach.

- One of the participated organizations – the NGO *Namys* ("Honor") carried out series of round tables in Astana and Almaty to discuss legal issues of invalids in Kazakhstan. The organization contributed to the 2003 – 2005 complex program development on rehabilitation of disabled people in Almaty, and to the creation of the center for remote education of people with limited abilities.
- Public organization *Ravnyi – Ravnomu* ("Peer-to-Peer") is given by the state support in introduction of a pilot project *Healthy Way of Life* in the schools of Auezov District of Almaty. Besides, *Ravnyi - Ravnomu* entered into Coordination Councils, formed under the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan and Akimat of Almaty, and signed a memorandum on cooperation with Ministry of Education.
- Association of Children Rights Protection conducted public awareness campaign to force the Department of Education to repeal its innovation of alteration of school directors. Ultimately, the rotation of school directors has been stopped in February 2003.
- The NGO *Umit* ("Hope") that protects rights of hearing-impaired people became a member of action group to design a Law *On State Social Delivery* that would enable the NGO to strengthen its financial situation and improve quality of service delivery.
- City Center of Women Initiatives participated in advocacy campaign (incl. signatures collection and appeal to the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan) under the aegis of Feminist League of Kazakhstan to ban a liquidation of the National commission on Women & Family Affairs – a key player in the women's advocacy drive in the country. The efforts of non-profit sector and civil movement resulted in continuation of the commission's activity.

#### **CSSCs' capacity strengthening in monitoring & evaluation of community projects**

Beginning the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2002 a system of monthly CAG evaluation plan was set by the Support Centers. The system includes M&E schedule, conducting of the process and subsequent report design & submission to the Hub office with the following joint consideration at Quarterly meetings. In addition, the Hub office compiled a table to trace M&E implementation in the Centers. M&E database, newly introduced in Counterpart and totaled 17 related reports by March 1, includes data on both final and follow-up evaluations of CAG projects:

Project implementation status: 9 projects (54%) out of 17 were completed in time; 1 project (6%) was completed ahead of time; and 7 (40%) were completed beyond the term.

Objectives achievement: 16 projects (94%) out of 17 achieved set objectives; and 1 (6%) – partially.

Community participation in project monitoring: 1 report (5,8%) displayed active involvement of the community; 1 (17,6%) – average level; 7 (41%) – low level; and 6 (35,6%) revealed no community engagement in the process.

Number of beneficiaries: final assessment of community projects showed a reduction of number of beneficiaries by 9%. Total number of actual beneficiaries made up 15,549 (91%) averaged 915 people in each project.

Contribution of community, NGO and other partners: Despite the low level of communities' participation in monitoring process, the involvement of communities in project realization came to be sufficiently active that was evidenced by the significant contribution to the projects (amounted \$22,961.80 and, thus, exceeding planned figures by 9%). Given contribution made up 21% of total cost of all 17 projects. As for the joint contribution of communities, NGOs and other partners (except Counterpart's grants), it amounted to \$52,723.60 that is 48% of total cost of all 17 projects.

Results of follow-up evaluations: All 6 projects, being evaluated on follow-up basis, showed sustainable development that was assessed by the following criteria: status of post-project results, including community involvement, sustainability plan and project maintenance.

According to data of March 31 2003, 51 out of 55 CAG projects have been completed. 25 (52%) out of the completed projects were evaluated on final basis and 6 (12,5%) were assessed on follow-up base. The laying out table is the following:

- Almaty – 11 projects (evaluation of 9 projects);
- Astana – 5 projects (evaluation of 4 projects);
- Aqtobe – 9 (evaluation of 4);
- Qaraghandy – 4 projects (no evaluation);
- Qostanai – 10 projects;
- Semey – 8 (evaluation of 2 projects);
- Oskemen – 8 projects (evaluation of 6 projects).

### **Network Development**

A workshop on strategic planning of CSSC Network's Board was conducted in Qaraghandy on January 23 – 25. Preliminary work, including compilation of the workshop' documents pack, agenda and organization methods, was done by a Country Director and Program staff. Design of the network principles, interaction and list of perspective projects was made in addition to adjustments of the strategic plan (mission, objectives, constituencies analysis and work plan). Moreover, members of the Network's Board have signed a Memorandum on *Cooperation & Interaction within the CSSC Network*. This memorandum demonstrates the Network's capacity for administering the countrywide grants based on partnership. Marat Aitmagambetov, a Country Director, was assigned a Chairman of the Network. Nurlan Sakhanov (OD Program Coordinator) designed documentation for the participants of the workshop on Strategic Planning of CSSC network.

In the framework of *Monitoring & Evaluation* project, supported by the Eurasia Foundation, the final program & financial reports were designed and submitted to the donor agency by the date fixed. M&E Project has been implemented and completed accordingly and appropriately to the donor's objectives. The reports were approved by the patronage on January 29. In its turn, Counterpart intends to continue further building and development of M&E experts network in Kazakhstan. The Support Centers plan to develop a project on *Forming of Demand for Evaluation as a Service Delivery* (by ZHALGHAS-Counterpart) and *Training Program for State Officials* (by CSSC ZUBR).

The Quarterly meeting of the Support Centers and the Hub office program staff was held on March 12 – 14 to design 3-month Action Plan, review data on CAG monitoring & evaluation, discuss reporting and ongoing program activities, CSSC network development and strategic planning. The meeting participants were also informed of the results of the 4<sup>th</sup> assessment of organizational development,

conducted by OD Program Coordinator. In their turn, the Support Centers designed and presented action plans for the period of March – June 2003. Institutional Grant agreements were signed during the meeting of Network's Board. Its members developed the Network Statute and concept, and discussed new ideas for the network projects, the issue of public participation in debate of a draft law *On NGOs* and organization of social fairs.

## **Kyrgyzstan**

### **Training Highlights**

Local contract trainers conducted 81 training workshops on 18 modules for 1,707 representatives of 1,060 NGOs/CBOs (Attachment #2). The main accomplishments of hub office within the context of providing support to CSSCs in administering training programs include:

- The Hub Office completed the process of transferring knowledge, skills, and attitudes to the local contract trainers- all eleven CSSCs have got a capacity in delivering 16 training modules.
- The Training Coordinator N. Tesina presented results of the analysis of the training administration by the CSSCs in the country meeting held on February 18-19. The CSSCs shared information on their actual achievements and performance indicators.
- The Hub Office has been reviewing the database on contract trainers, and to date revision has completed for 7 CSSCs. The revision for the other 4 CSSCs will be completed in April 2003.
- The CSSCs started conducting surveys among their clients to better meet their training needs and identify the impact of their training program. The CSSCs of Batken, Kerben, and Naryn conducted surveys among NGOs and CBOs to identify the training needs and possibilities in introducing fees for training services. For instance, the CSSC of Naryn interviewed 83 people representing 52 NGOs and identified that the training in Project Design resulted in 106 funding proposals submitted to different donors, of which 38 were approved totalling \$128,844.
- The Coordinator N. Tesina took part in the regional meeting of training coordinators, where they shared information on achievements and gaps of the training program and made some recommendations on its implementation.

### **Organizational Development**

*Counterpart Sheriktesh*, the local off-shoot of Counterpart, has been successfully implementing projects.

- The contract with WBI on developing a community empowerment network (CEN) in Kyrgyzstan, has been progressing in a satisfactory rate. After consultations with CDD practitioners, the Steering Group consisting of 12 people, representing WB, UNDP, Counterpart Sheriktesh, NGOs, National Government, local government and CBOs was formed. The database structure was designed and prepared for entering data, the questionnaire for mapping exercise was developed and being updated after the test interviews.
- The project with USDA funding on *Monitoring of Schools on the USDA/GFEI program* was successfully completed, and the final report was submitted to USDA in February 2003.

Counterpart Kyrgyzstan was officially re-registered as a Branch Office of Counterpart International Inc. in Kyrgyz Republic (a former legal name was Kyrgyz branch of Counterpart Foundation). The rationale behind was that the previous registration of the Hub Office made in 1996 has not respond to the changed environment since new NGO Law was accepted and put into force as well as Counterpart changed its legal name in Washington, DC. In addition, it was decided to have two legal entities- local and international- to protect USAID funds against levies in line with US-Kyrgyz bilateral agreement.

The 4<sup>th</sup> round of OD re-assessments of the CSSCs is underway, and the Hub Office completed assessments of CSSCs in Osh, Karakol, Batken, and Talas. The obtained information was summarized and analyzed, and best practice and lessons learned were documented. Three case management meetings were held in order to assess progress in achieving programmatic goals, identify gaps,

patterns and trends, and apply the learning to future OD work. These meetings were attended by all coordinators (*USAID, EC, and Health Programs*). Main accomplishments and achievements are:

- According the analysis of the scores of the last OD assessments in 9 CSSC's and 4 Focus NGO the increase of the OD score was estimated as 7.55% against the planned level of 25%. There are several factors behind such low figures:
  - a lack of information of partners and clients (governments, business, NGOs) about CSSCs' activities, which stipulated unjustified high scores in the first assessment
  - a lack of knowledge of the CSSCs' staff in the OD capacity building areas, which also led to overestimating their capacity during the first assessments.
- During March, the Hub Office staff provided extensive consultations to CSSCs and Focus NGOs, which were working on extending their institutional grants for three months and developing operational budgets. The CSSCs and Focus NGOs, in addition to providing services to their clients, will be conducting special activities such as press-conferences, training, information campaign, workshops and seminars.
- The action plan for OD component for the next 6-month period was prepared in January and updated in March. According the plan the Hub Office will focus on assisting CSSCs and Focus NGOs in revising their plans on financial sustainability.
- In terms of fee-for-services, the CSSCs continue providing training workshops on a cost- sharing and contractual basis. The CSSC of Nookat made contracts with 5 village governments (Ayil okmotus) for 42,000 soms (equivalent to \$913) to deliver 14 workshops, the CSSC of Jalalabad signed the contract with NGO *Spravedlivost* for \$100 to deliver 5 training seminars. Besides, the CSSCs of Naryn earned 7,650 soms (\$166) while delivering Social Partnership workshop to Naryn State Administration, and CSSC of Kerben signed a contract with UNDP Decentralization Programme in delivering paid training to their target groups and was already got 330 USD.
- The OD re-assessments resulted in revising strategic plans, updating job descriptions, improving staff management procedures, and updating operational plans of the CSSCs. The CSSCs have been developing organizational culture versus the project approach- they introduced integrated job descriptions, improved internal links in the organizations.

#### ***Staff Development:***

On January 22-24, the Training Coordinator N. Tesina and EU Project Coordinator A. Doranova took part in the regional training workshop Membership Development held in Almaty. The training module was adapted for delivering to the CSSCs. The training for the CSSCs was held during the country meeting held in Jalalabad on February 17-22.

Resulted from the performance appraisal conducted in the Hub Office in January- February, Country Director made a decision to appoint a Ms. A. Aitbaeva, M&E Expert of EU Project, as an Acting Grant Manager, and former Grant Manager B. Orozaliev was moved to the position of Grant Manager Assistant.

#### ***Grant Activities***

*CAG:* The CSSCs conducted the 4 grant review meetings, where 8 proposals were reviewed, of which 7 were approved for funding. The total amount of awarded grants makes \$7,213 (Attachment #1). Thus, in total 125 projects were funded with total amount of \$297,423. The CSSCs have paid 63 monitoring and evaluation visits.

*Conflict Mitigation Grant Program:* Small grants program in Batken Oblast, funded by USAID and aimed at supporting peace building and conflict mitigation initiatives of local NGOs/CBOs has been progressing. Of 20 projects funded with total amount of \$35,011, 5 projects were completed successfully (14 in total), and the other projects are expected to be completed next quarter. The last installments to the projects were made.

#### ***Focus NGOs***

The 4<sup>th</sup> round of OD re-assessments of Focus NGOs has completed, and the Hub Office completed assessments of *Chintamani* and *Talas Oblast Farmers Union*. The main priorities in building organizational capacities of Focus NGOs for next period were identified as follows: developing the marketing research among clients, conduct a SWOT analysis and revise strategic plan, develop a plan of financial sustainability, apply a staff performance appraisal and develop a system of motivation and encouragement of the staff members.

According to the analysis of the scores of the last OD assessments in 9 CSSC's and 4 Focus NGOs the increase of the OD score was estimated as 7.55% against the planned level of 25%. The factors behind such low figures are the same as for the CSSCs: (1) a lack of information of partners and clients (governments, business, NGOs) about activities of Focus NGOs, which stipulated unjustified high scores in the first assessment, and (2) a lack of knowledge of the staff of Focus NGOs in the OD capacity building areas, which also led to overestimating their capacity during the first assessments.

### **Community Outreach**

The revision of CAPs with focus on boosting economic activities in target communities has completed and in all target communities. Resulted from the regional training workshop in Community Networking held in Samarkand in October 30- November 5, 2002, the Association of CSSCs conducted additional PCAs in 22 communities throughout Kyrgyzstan to identify their networking needs. Those PCAs were conducted by 64 facilitators with involvement of 1,127 people.

The PCA reports indicated that the traditional internal networking in the communities include relations with relatives, friends, neighbours, participation of the community meetings, celebrating holidays, birthdays, etc. The traditional networking approaches like *Ashar* are quite efficient in rallying people and acceptable at a grassroots' level. PCAs clearly identified intention of communities to build the networks as they see the advantages of networks, particularly in promoting common interests and protecting their rights. The consolidated report on PCAs on networking has been developed and sent back to the CSSCs and to the Regional Office.

The other accomplishments include:

- The CSSCs have conducted 63 monitoring visits to the target communities, including 21 close-out and 6 follow-up PM&E of CAGs. To date, 64 close-out and 20 follow-up evaluation reports were incorporated into the regional data base by the Hub Office.
- The CO Coordinator C. Akmatova presented results of the analysis of the CAGs' evaluation at the country meeting held on February 18. The PM&E reports indicate sufficient level of sustainability of majority of the community projects and increased participation of the communities in projects management. The CSSCs shared their achievements and problems they encountered during PM&E, and developed recommendations for improving the PM&E process.
- 7 Volunteer Centers (Kerben, Kara-Balta, Nookat, Talas, Naryn, Jalal-Abad and Osh) become members of the Network of Volunteer Centers initiated by the NGO *League of Volunteers*. On January 15-18, the first meeting of the Network was held in Bishkek.

Main trends identified during PM&E in target communities are:

- The monitoring visits indicated increased level of transparency and participation of community members in the projects. The important result of the projects on social infrastructure rehabilitation is creation of various community structures like water users committees for water projects, committee of trustees for school projects, etc.
- The majority of projects, focused on developing income-generation activities, established credit committees to ensure transparency in providing financial assistance to individual families. Nevertheless, the target communities are still in need to strengthen skills in analyzing the market conditions, cost-effectiveness and technical feasibility of proposed business.
- The target communities started the process of official registration, for example, the target communities of Ivanovka VI. (Kant) and Kara-Tube VI. (Kara-Balta) have been registered as local

NGOs *Adept* and *Aiyl Korku* respectively. Several applications were submitted to the Ministry of Justice (*Krasnaya Rechka* of Kant, and *Mikhailovka* and *Tasma* of Karakol).

- After completion of CAGs, several target communities implemented projects with 100% of local funding. For example, the target community of Otradnoe VI. (Karakol) renovated the village club and repaired the road between Otradnoe and Tasma with assistance of the Aiyl Okmotu, local farms and the community members, and all contributions makes \$1,574. The community of Kuu-Maidan VI. (Osh) built 2 bridges for \$2,400. The other example is the Karanai community (Nookat), where the community members installed the transformer for \$2,350 with the help of the community members, local government and local business.
- The CSSCs continue introducing the concept of Community Foundations (CFs) in their target communities. Currently, CFs have been developing through revenue-generating projects, and community members selected different mechanisms for establishing and replenishing CFs, for instance, applying micro-credit schemes for individual families, or developing community-owned business like animal/chicken farming, bakery and sewing production, land farming etc.

### **Network Development**

- Following the training on Membership Development conducted on February 17-19 in Jalalabad, the Hub Office conducted 2-day country meeting of CSSCs, where they discussed strategic plan and internal regulations of the CSSC Association. The Association development fund guidelines and strategic plan were drafted and main components of such documents were discussed. Further development of such documents were assigned to different Association Coordination Council members in order to continue discussions over updated versions of the documents during the next country meeting.
- The participants elected the Association Executive Body, and Mr. E. Kasybekov was elected as the Association Executive Director on a competitive basis, providing that he will be able to commit only 5% of his personal time to the Association as a volunteer.
- The CSSC Association initiated a national advocacy campaign to lobby the draft bill *Amendments and Additions to the Tax Code of the Kyrgyz Republic* and conducted 14 round tables in all provinces of Kyrgyzstan with participation of 350 people, representing NGOs, mass media and state institutions, including fiscal entities. The roundtables' participants discussed the proposed bill and prepared appeals to 45 deputies of the Legislative Chamber of Jogorku Kenesh with request to support the efforts of the civil society organizations and adopt the bill. On March 8, 2003, the bill *Amendments and additions to the Tax Code of the Kyrgyz Republic* was signed by the President of Kyrgyz Republic and on March 14 it was put into force.
- Another campaign coordinated within the Association was a discussion during a public campaign on postponing the date of the *Referendum on Constitutional Reform*. The whole network took part in the campaign but Bishkek and Naryn CSSCs were in a difficult situation because of external pressure made by GONGOs or local akims and even security services. However, nobody was punished but feeling of scare was there in Kyrgyz Civil Society in general.

## **Tajikistan**

### **A. Security situation**

The security situation in Tajikistan remained calm and didn't affect Counterpart's activity. Due to improving the situation in Karategeen Valley Counterpart is considering opening a center in this region.

### **Activity Overview**

- Sulton Imomov was hired as an Office Manager to replace Bakhtiyor Faiziev who moved to Swiss Office for Cooperation.
- Alisher Mahmudov was hired as a Health Coordinator to run the Healthy Communities Program.
- Zarshed Ismoilzoda filled the position of IT Manager. The former IT Manager transferred to Urban Institute.

- A Grant Manager Assistant was hired this quarter to assist the Phase III Grant Program and Health Program in administering grants. Nasiba Saidova who was occupying this position before, became a Grant Manager. The former Grant Manager Nargis Azozova decided not to return after her maternity leave.
- The Program Manager Elena Mamadnazarova has left Counterpart for personal reasons. It was decided not hire a new Program Manager but transfer this responsibility to Country Director. Nabisher Juraev, the Monitoring and Evaluation Coordinator will coordinate and supervise the training component of the Phase III Program.
- Due to extension of the Civil Society and NGO Development Program Hub revised its workplan including new activities to it for the next three months. The main focus of these activities will be monitoring and evaluation of the program components and grants. Hub members have also assisted the CSSCs in developing their workplan and budgets for the remaining period.
- This quarter the office completed the employee performance appraisal process. The last performance appraisal was done in June 2002. Since there are many new employees in the office a memo was sent to all Hub members explaining the goal and expected results of the job performance appraisal. Also, the Deputy Director and the Financial Officer conducted a small session with all the staff members on goals, requirements, steps, timeframe and expectations of this process. All the Managers reported on the results of the performance appraisal in the end of January.
- In February Counterpart held the last Grant Review Committee meeting. Out of six project proposals submitted for community action grants three were approved. All the new community action grants were opened and the first installment was paid.
- In March Counterpart Tajikistan was informed that its proposal to USDA for Food Security was approved. Counterpart International is part of a consortium on this project with CARE, MCI and Save the Children/US.
- On March 18 Counterpart held a press conference to announce its new program the Healthy Communities. This three –year program, which is implemented by Counterpart and Zdrav Plus is funded by USAID. It is a grant program aimed to assist NGO, CBOs and community groups in addressing communities’ health problems. The US Ambassador to Tajikistan participated and made a speech in the Press Conference as well. After the presentations the Healthy Program Coordinator answered media representatives questions. The Hub is planning to contract the CSSCs for implementing this program. Currently, the Healthy Communities Program Coordinator is working directly with the Centers to assist them in developing their workplan and budget.
- Under the Community Empowerment Network (CEN) Project funded by the World Bank Institute Counterpart in consultation with the CEN Steering Group developed its Action Plan and sent to the WBI Headquarters for approval. A number of meetings were conducted with the possible members of the network to discuss the CEN Project strategy for future. Due to the Program Manager, Elena Mamadnazarova’s departure from Counterpart the Deputy Director Farhod Bokiev was appointed a focal point for this project.
- Counterpart has decided to hold regular coordination meetings between the Counterpart International projects. Currently, Counterpart International has the following projects in Tajikistan:
  - CHAP
  - Counterpart Consortium/Tajikistan
  - Healthy Communities Program
  - WB funded Women’s Empowerment Project
  - WB funded CEN (Community Empowerment Network)
- The goal of the coordination meetings will be sharing information about each component’s activities and improving the cooperation between them. All the CPI projects representatives expressed interest in having such meetings. The first coordination meeting will be held in April.
- In March Jay Cooper, the Regional Office Director visited Tajikistan to oversee the implementation of the Phase III Program and provide consultations on administrative and programmatic issues.

## **Training Highlights**

- The Hub continued conducting trainings for the clients in accordance to the workplan. At the same time the Training Coordinator in consultations with the CSSCs developed a plan of training activities for the extension period.
- In January the Training Coordinator, the Kulob CSSC Director and a contract trainer participated in the regional TOT on Membership Development. The country level TOT for the CSSCs and contract trainers will be held in April.
- During the quarter the Training Coordinator collected information on the trainings conducted by Counterpart through its CSSCs since year 2000. Earlier, it had been found that not all trainings conducted were in the database. The investigation showed that in total 461 trainings were conducted during the mentioned above period for Phase III, UNHCR and CRD Programs. The new data is placed now in the database.
- The Training Coordinator through the CSSCs conducted NGO training needs assessment in all the regions of Tajikistan. This assessment showed that the following trainings are more demanded by NGOs, CBOs and community groups:
  - NGO Marketing
  - Micro crediting
  - Network development
  - Team Building/Conflict Resolution
  - Project Design (for new registered NGOs and Initiative Groups)
  - Human Resource Development
  - Strategic Planning
  - NGO Management
  - PCA
  - Coalition Building
  - Association Development
  - Problem Identification
  - Governance
  - Advocacy
- USAID has canceled two training events that Counterpart was planning to conduct through AED: Advocacy at the Community Level in Dushanbe and Community Based Economic Development workshop in Nebraska/US. All the candidates for these workshops were informed about cancellation of the trainings.
- Following the CSSC's request at the Network meeting in January, Hub has developed a contract form on providing paid services to clients in order to have a unified contract format for all the CSSCs. The contract form will be presented in the next Network meeting in April.

## **Organizational Development**

- Counterpart Regional Office OD Consultant visited Tajikistan to conduct an OD Intervention with Hub Office. The Uzbekistan Office OD Coordinator assisted her in conducting the OD consultancy. The consultants met with Hub Center members, stakeholders, clients and partners in order to get a wide picture of strength, limitations, and needs for change / development. Then, in the staff meeting the consultants presented their findings to Hub Center members. Based on these findings Hub members set goals for changes and selected a change management team to lead the process of implementing the changes. The Change Management Team will meet in April to develop a plan of activities in accordance to the goals set.
- This quarter Hub completed the registration process. On February 24 the Ministry of Justice notified Counterpart of being officially registered as a local NGO Counterpart Tajikistan *Hamkori* with the national status. In September this year Counterpart had started preparations for getting a local status and submitted all the necessary documents to the Ministry of Justice. This activity is a part of the Hub Center's strategy for sustainability. One of the OD assessment's finding was that not all staff members were involved in the decision-making process on the registration issues. In March the Hub leadership conducted a special session on the registration issue with all Counterpart Hub staff. During the meeting the mission, structure, membership and governing

body of the new organization were presented to the staff members. The staff members also discussed the advantages of having an organization with the local status.

- Two OD Case Management meetings were conducted this quarter. During the meetings the program staff assessed the CSSC's progress in developing their organizational and service delivery capacity. Based on revealed issues each Program Coordinator took notes on their respective field. At the same time the PCs noticed a considerable improvement in the quality of service delivery in some Centers, particularly in Dushanbe and Kulob CSSC.
- During the quarter the OD Coordinator conducted the fourth round of OD assessment with the Dushanbe and Kulob CSSCs. The Dushanbe CSSC members after the OD intervention revised their Strategic Planning focusing more on their sustainability. They decided not to wait for Hub Office decision regarding combining the Dushanbe Center with Hub but act in order to strengthen their capacity. First of all, they are planning to revise the Board of Directors and enhance its work.
- The OD assessment with the Kulob CSSC showed that due to Hub PCs immediate interventions many problems this center had been facing in the previous quarter were solved. Now they are working as a team, they improved the quality of reports on different components of the program, and managed to administer grants from Kulob region independently.

### ***Staff Development***

- Counterpart Tajikistan Country Director Dilorom Atabaeva when being in Bishkek for CEN Conference visited the Kyrgyzstan Office for exchange of experience. In particular, she familiarized with Counterpart Kyrgyzstan's experience in volunteer management, staff development, and the Phase III components.
- Janna Rysakova, the Regional Office OD Coordinator conducted a practical session on Project Design for the HUB and CSSC members during the Network meeting in January.
- Farhod Bokiev, the Deputy Director conducted a practical session on Writing Success Stories for Hub and CSSC members during the Network meeting.
- The Training Coordinator and OD Coordinator attended the Training Coordinators Regional Meeting and TOT on Membership Development in Almaty.

### **Community Outreach**

- In February Counterpart through the Dushanbe CSSC with the financial support of AED conducted a social partnership follow-up meeting for the Direct Rule Districts in Tursunzade. This was the third meeting held following the National Social Conference's recommendations in June 2002. First two follow-up meetings were conducted in December 02 in Khatlon and Sugd oblasts. Representatives of President Office, Chairmen of district governments, representatives of NGOs, International Organizations, business structures, Mass Media representatives from all Districts of Republican Subordination participated in the meeting. During their presentations the representatives of active NGOs raised the problems of building positive collaboration with the local governments. In the second part of the meeting the participants divided into small groups, where they discussed obstacles of Social Partnership, and prepared recommendations on how to improve the partnership between the civil society sectors. The Dushanbe CSSC trainers facilitated the process. Then the small groups presented their recommendations. By the end of the meeting the participants established a working group to finalize the small groups recommendations and distribute them among the participants. In total 90 people participated in the meeting.
- The next follow-up meeting on Social Partnership will be held in Dushanbe in April. A working group has been established, consisting representatives of different sectors to prepare this meeting. This working group had a number of meeting and consultations particularly with the Dushanbe City Government regarding the forthcoming event. They invited personally the Mayor of Dushanbe to participate in the meeting.
- The Community Outreach Coordinator visited all the CSSCs to monitor the implementation of the Community Outreach components and provided them feedback. She also monitored a number of CAGs. According to her reports some communities delay in fulfilling their plan. She met with the CSSCs and partner NGOs to explore the situation and give necessary recommendations. In most of cases they assisted these communities to revise their workplans.

- The Community Outreach Coordinator and Monitoring and Evaluation Coordinator visited *Nizomi* Community in Ghozimalik District to meet with the community members regarding their project implementation. This community, which had received a community action grant from Counterpart in August, 02, had difficulties in completing the grant in time due to poor management of the project. The first installment of the grant had been given to the community. After the visit she recommended the Kurghon-Teppa CSSC and the Partner NGO *Marifat* conducting additional interventions with this community to improve the situation. After these interventions the community members elected a new leader and took steps to pursue the implementation of the project.

### **Network Development**

- In January Counterpart held a three-day Network meeting, where the Directors and Program Coordinators of all six CSSCs and Hub PCs participated. During the meeting the CSSCs presented their situational analysis reports on community development efforts and activities in their respective regions in accordance to the Community Empowerment Network (CEN) Program, reviewed the strategy of the Healthy Communities Program implementation, revised the Network Development Action Plan, and discussed the implementation of Phase III Program components.
- Counterpart selected the *Association of Eastern Women* from Panjakent to be the sixth CSSC for Zerafshan Valley of Sughd Oblast. This region consisting of three districts: Aini, Panjakent and Mastchoh has not been covered well by Counterpart before. This Center is already involved in the implementation of the Healthy Communities Program. Through a small institutional grant from Hub this NGO is already providing services to NGOs and CBOs in this area. The Center's Director spent two weeks in Hub to familiarize with the Phase III, Healthy Communities and Community Empowerment Network programs. He also visited the Dushanbe CSSC for exchange of experience.
- Counterpart is also exploring the opportunity of opening a center in Karategeen Valley. For this reason two of the program staff members will travel to this area next month in order: 1) to meet with local NGOs and CBOs and assess their needs in technical assistance; 2) to seek an NGO which could be Counterpart's partner in providing services to local NGOs, CBOs and community groups and implementing Counterpart's programs in this area. So far, the Dushanbe CSSC has been responsible for this area but because of geographical conditions and security situation they were not able to visit this region much.

## **TURKMENISTAN**

### **Activity Overview**

- The conducted NGO mapping in Balkan velayat resulted with the identifying of potential organization for delivering of services as a CSSC in the region. The selected organization "Diller Dynyasi" (World of Languages) situated in Turkmenbashi city signed a short term Partnership Agreement to start the delivery of a Resource Center services such as information dissemination, basic consultations to communities, access to Internet and e-mail, trainings and library resources to local NGOs and communities. Counterpart Turkmenistan developed the initial Organizational development plan for the Center, which will enable the Organization to be ready to provide full package of CSSC services to the end of the Partnership Agreement (June, 03).
- Developed the Country work plan for the three months extension period, which focuses on improving the quality of delivered services and submitted to the regional office.
- Conducted the Quarterly Program Staff meeting including CSSCs and Hub staff. The meeting reviewed the results of three years project activities and developed recommendations for the future activities, which will focus on improving of quality of rendered services.
- The Program Staff meeting followed by a one-day staff retreat. The retreat was a team-building session facilitated by the three CSSC staff.
- USAID CAR had limited financial audit activities in Counterpart Turkmenistan.

### **Regional Support**

- Jay Cooper (Regional Director) visited Turkmenbashy city to meet the local NGO community in order update the NGO grows in the region where the new CSSC will be established. Also he had a meeting with International Organizations leadership in Turkmenistan to update the program activities. During the visit he had a meeting with the staff where Owen Goldfarb (Country Advisor) was introduced.
- Rowshan Amanzjanova (Regional Community Outreach Coordinator) have visited Turkmenistan to provide assistantship to Jeren Khakyevea (Community Outreach coordinator) in organizing and facilitating with Community Outreach program implementers to update the program activities and develop the action plan for the further activities. During the visit she had conducted a training session on conducting of Advocacy activities.

### **Staff development.**

- Jeren Khakyevea (Community Outreach coordinator) returned back from maternity leave vacation.
  - Enesh Turesheova (office manager) left for a maternity leave vacation.
  - Ekatherina Prykhina (financial manager) was promoted to the position of Financial and Administration Manager.
- M&E Coordinator Bladimir Kosarev, Training Coordinator Makhym Orazmukhamedova, and Manager of Ashgabat CSSC Khajarbibi Elamanova have participated in regional training “Membership Development” in Almaty.
- On January 20-21, Training Coordinator Makhym Orazmukhamedova and Manager of Ashgabat CSSC Khajarbibi Elamanova have participated in regional training coordinators meeting held in the Almaty.

In January Yazgylch Charyev (Country Director), as a member of the advisory board, has participated in INTRAC’s regional advisory board meeting in Tashkent.

### **Training Highlights**

- Conducted 17 training for 282 participants from 108 NGOs. Out of 17 trainings 4 were conducted in Lebap velayat, 6 were conducted in Dashoguz velayat, and 7 in Ashgabat.
- Updated the Training M&E guidelines. Database of training reports was developed.
- Developed the training “Basic skills for computer using” in the framework of activities to expand access for local NGOs to information through Internet and e-mail. The activities coordinated with Start/AED project on upcoming “Volunteer Forum” event.

### **Organizational Development**

- In respond to the case management meeting outcomes Lebap CSSC was consulted on human resource management, day to day activity planning, delegation of responsibilities and on conflict of interest issues. Developed the action plan to hire the Resource Center coordinator.
- As a result of updated OD Action Plan for Ashgabat CSSC the job descriptions were renewed.
- Action plan on organizational development NGO “Shamchyrag” for next period developed.
- The program orientation activities for a newly selected Turkmenbashy CSSC staff were developed.
- Target NGOs “Medet” and “Information Legal Center” in Turkmenabat were provided with consultations to improve access to e-mail and Internet, management and service delivery issues.

### **Community Outreach**

- During the reporting period was conducted Community Network Development assessment in 5 communities of Akhal velayat (Gavers etrap, Deihan Union “Bugdayly”; Daykhan Union (D/U) named after S.Niyazov, D/U “Makhtumguly” and Tzement gorodok and GRES of Buzmein town) to identify the local communities potential resources on networking.
- Women Union Leadership in Akhal velayat was consulted jointly with Ashgabat CSSC on development of the proposal conducting Social Partnership Conference to be submitted to AED/Start project.
- CSSCs consulted in developing the goals and the objectives for NGO “Discussion club” activities.

- To Ashgabat CSSC was provided direct consultation on developing the agenda of Social partnership Round Table «Combining state and public organizations efforts to develop local initiatives». As a result, Social Partnership Coordination Group including 6 people from NGO, IG and state organizations was organized. Consultation was delivered for Lebap CSSC on organizing the round table “Legislative aspects for Turkmenistan NGOs”.
- During the reported period there was conducted 21 CAG monitoring visits and 14 CAG Project evaluation activities.
- CO quarterly meeting took place in Ashgabat hub office on February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2003. There was discussed the following topics: Interrelationship of CO program with the other programs; CAGs analyses -lessons learned; and Monitoring and Evaluation of the CAGs. During the quarterly meeting with CO Regional Coordinator it was conducted the Advocacy training for program coordinators of Hub office and a CSSCs staff.
- Following the results of CO quarterly meeting The Rules and Procedures of CAG Grant Management document was revised and provided to the Supporting Centers. And it was planned in the next 3 month to develop and to conduct the workshop on Lessons learned for community facilitators, to develop the database on technical experts.
- Developed the criteria for the participants of “Volunteer Forum”, which will be conducted in early May with the support of AED/Start project.

### **Network Development**

- Conducted two day Network meeting attended by all Counterpart staff (as network members) and two volunteers from each CSSC. The network meeting acknowledged the lack of external opportunities to be registered as a local NGO and decided to revise the Country Strategic Planning document in respond to existing challenges. Next Network meeting will be held at the end of May where will be presented the updated Strategic Planning document.

## **UZBEKISTAN**

### **Activity Overview**

- On February 12 all the CSSC Managers and Hub-office representatives participated at the Conference conducted in Tashkent by *Civic Advocacy Support Program* of Counterpart International. Local NGOs, International Organizations, Oblast state structures and mass media representatives participated at it. Hub-office rendered assistance to the *CASP* program in organization of the Conference.
- In January and February 2003 – the Network worked on the RFA very actively.

### **Training Highlights/Staff Development**

- According to the TOT Plan developed at the Network meeting in July 2002 the following TOTs have been conducted during the Quarter:
  - TOT on *Human Resource Management*, Kokand. 18 people participated;
  - TOT on *Public Education through the Media*, Namangan. 15 people participated;
  - TOT on *Effective Governance / Board of Directors*, Samarkand. 13 people participated.
- Tashkent CSSC conducted additional TOT on *Methodology of Adult Education* for 20 participants from 5 CSSCs.
- At the advanced regional training on *Membership Development* conducted in Almaty one contract trainer from Tashkent participated.
- Raising the level of trainers’ skills occurred also through participation in and observation of the trainings conducted locally for NGOs. So, during the Quarter trainers participated in the trainings 16 times and observed trainings 9 times.

### **Organizational Development**

OD Consultancy the following client organizations were conducted:

- *Agency of Social Researches ITA FACT* / Tashkent CSSC (January 7-11, 2003);
- Rehabilitation Center *Umid* / Focus NGO in Samarkand (January 13-15, 2003);
- *Kokand Civil Society Development Center* (January 28-31, 2003);

- Support Center of Women and Teenagers *Ishonch* / Focus NGO in Fergana (February 19-21, 2003);
- International Scientific Society *Al Khorezmy-Vambery* / Urgench CSSC (March 14-19, 2003).

### ***Staff Development***

- January 22-25, 2003 – 3 Hub-office and 1 Bukhara CSSC Coordinator participated on the advanced regional training on *Membership Development* conducted in Almaty.
- February 18 – March 6, 2003 – OD Coordinator participated in the conduction of OD Consultancy with Counterpart-Tajikistan together with Counterpart CAR Regional OD Coordinator. This experience allowed use other flexible approaches to the process. Knowledge and skills gained could be used in the future.
- March 23-28, 2003 – the training on *Organizational Development and Team Building* was conducted for interested Network staff members (32 people). Goals and objectives of the training were to promote ability for more deep realization of leadership opportunities of participants, as well as more clear realization of ways of the development of organization the one is working in. The training was conducted by the Training Center "Golubka", Moscow, Russia. The value of the training is that it follows the last year network training, conducted by the same trainers for almost the same group of people. The training was very successful since participants were given new tools and approaches to organizational development. It helped to analyze the network and every single partner - to analyze the past, the present and to think about the future. The progress of Network members was obvious.
- During the Quarter 9 CSSC representatives (assistants, Coordinators and Managers) participated in the 8 Counterpart trainings.

### ***Information Exchange***

- As a hard copy and an electronic version, 3 issues of the bulletin "Initiative" for January-March, 2003 in Russian № 1(51), 2(52), 3(53) were prepared and published. Two issues for January and February 2003 were published in Uzbek language and one issue for Winter 2003 in English. The number of copies is 600 in Russian, 300 in Uzbek and 200 in English. All issues of the bulletins were placed at CANGO.NET: <http://www.cango.net/kg/uz> (in English) and <http://win.cango.net/kg/uz> (in Russian). The published bulletins were mailed to 150 addresses. The mailing list for the bulletin in an electronic format increased up to 227 addresses (in December 2002 were 164 electronic addresses). The remaining copies were distributed by the CSSC during the visits of NGOs, consultations, seminars, and conferences.
- Taking into consideration needs of Uzbek NGOs an analytical issue of bulletin "Initiative" (as hard copies and electronic version) on "Fundraising", it was published and distributed in February 2003. Since May 2002 three issue of analytical bulletins devoted to most actual aspects of the NGO activity have been published: "How to establish NGO", "Funding for NGO, or how to design an application for a grant", "Fundraising" in Russian and Uzbek 500 copies for each. Distribution of these materials has shown that they are in great need. Therefore a separate edition "Aid to NGO leader" combining all these three issues is published in Russian (1000 copies) and Uzbek (800 copies).
- On March 19, 2003 presentation of two handbooks for NGOs: "Taxation and Accounting for NGOs in Uzbekistan" and "Aid to NGO Leader" took part in Tashkent. Dr. Professor Akmal Saidov, the Chairman of the Committee of Oliy Majlis for Democratic Institutions, Non-Governmental Organizations and Self Governing Bodies and Director of the National Center on Human Rights of the Republic of Uzbekistan, Lary Memmot from U.S. Embassy as well as NGO, government, mass media representatives participated on the presentation. The handbooks were developed by the ICNL and Counterpart-Uzbekistan.
- The "Taxation and Accounting of NGOs in Uzbekistan" handbook was published with financial support of the Open Society Institute Assistance Foundation – Uzbekistan. It is intended to provide a detailed explanation of legislation on taxation and accounting for non-governmental non-commercial organizations. It will thereby promote a greater understanding of the Tax Code of the Republic of Uzbekistan and the National Standards of Accounting. The guidelines refer to

the current legislation of the Republic of Uzbekistan as of January 1, 2003 and other available materials.

- The “Aid to NGO Leader” handbook is a guide for establishing NGOs and fundraising for NGOs, which will lead to sustainable civil society development. The publication is of interest to those working in the NGO community, government officials and the general public. Both handbooks are presented in Uzbek and Russian languages. The guidelines on taxation and accounting for NGOs in Uzbekistan will be available on CD-ROM also.
- The database “Uzbekistan NGOs” was corrected. Non-functioning initiative groups have been excluded and new NGOs were included. For March 1, 2003 in the database there are 655 NGOs and initiative groups. Information on Uzbek NGOs from updated Data Base was submitted to a number of International Organizations at their request (Freedom House, UNDP, World Bank, USAID, etc.).
- CSSC and target NGOs are regularly were provided with information about International Organization's new grant programs, fellowships and upcoming events.
- The list of International Organizations located in Uzbekistan as well as Potential Donors for NGOs from abroad was updated and distributed to CSSC and NGOs. This list includes 101 organizations with contact data and brief descriptions of their activity.
- All brochures of Counterpart activity are updated with new logo, new addresses of CSSCs.

### **Community Outreach**

As the result of the activity Steering Committee to consider upon Best Social Partnership projects was established in February based on Local Grant Review Committee. All members were provided with projects and criteria for selection. On February 4, 2003 Steering Committee meeting was conducted. Steering Committee members suggested outlining projects, which were aimed at vulnerable representatives of the society such as disabled people, children, and women. Second, to outline projects with impact on social life of communities. Several projects were deferred due to the lack of documents, necessary for consideration. As the result of the meeting project *Opening primary school for 120 children of Davronbek mahalla* implemented by NGO Mahloroyim (Kokand), which is under MIP program of Counterpart-Uzbekistan, was considered as the best one.

In January 2003 Hub-office consulted each CSSC (via e-mail, phone and during meetings) on clarifying major stages in Community Network Development (CND) PCAP. As the result the following steps came out:

- Creation of facilitation teams, instructing and getting them ready for CND PCAP;
- Selection of the community by given criteria, which were developed at the CO meeting in Almaty;
- Conducting assessment;
- Writing the report.

Assessment was conducted during the first half of February 2003 by all 7 CSSCs. In total 68 facilitators 621 community people were engaged into the process. The very first results of the assessment showed that communities in Uzbekistan have potential for Community Networks Development. In fact, there are several levels of already existing community networks.

### **Network Development**

February 13-14, 2003 – meeting of the Network Managers was conducted in Tashkent. The main issues discussed at the meeting were as following:

- Discussion of the RFA for the new program and developing ideas for it;
- Exchange with the main news and achievements of each CSSC and Hub-office;
- Presentation of types of legal Networks by the ICNL representative – as fellowship based on agreement signed and as legally registered Union of NGOs;
- Challenges of the trainings component – achievement of indicators, trainers, participants, possibility for paid trainings, etc;
- Quality Control;
- Presentation of the CASP and Community Health Programs.

## D. Civil Society Support Center Activity Overview

### Kazakhstan

#### 1. ZHALGHAS-Counterpart, Almaty Oblast, Almaty

##### Internal Capacity Building

- ZHALGHAS-Counterpart staff participated in the strategic plan meetings held on January 16 – 17 and March 3 – 6. The major issues were localization process of the Support Center and the Hub office, action plan design and formation of workgroups.
- On January 15, the meeting of ZHALGHAS staff with NGO *Baspana* and Institute of Ecology & Sustainable Development was aimed to summarize results of Samarkand training on rural network development. On January 28, the meeting with above-mentioned institute covered discussion of further cooperation in community network development in Almaty Oblast as well as partnership in joint projects.
- The CSSC Program Coordinator – Galym Zhukupabyev facilitated the meeting of Training Coordinators (January 20 – 21) that resulted in action plan design concerning the training program.
- Alibi Jangildin (the CSSC Director) took part in Qaraghandy meeting on CSSC Network creation.
- The CSSC staff participated in round table on consideration of draft law on *State Social Delivery*. The session was organized by UNDP on January 24.
- On January 27, Galym Zhukupbayev met the regional & country Community Outreach coordinators to discuss advanced training module on *Social Partnership*.
- The CSSC took part in initial stage of implementation of *Healthy Communities Program* (awareness campaign about the program start, collection of applications and letters of interest, consulting in the program's issues and preparation of the training program).
- In the framework of the CSSC' sustainable development, Program Coordinator participated in design of joint project (with the regional office) *Research of Training Program's Impact on NGO Development in Almaty*, and (with *Baspana*) *Rural Initiatives Development in Narynkol Village of Almaty Oblast*.
- Supported by ZHALGHAS, NGO *Otkryti Mir* ("Opened World") conducted round table *Book – Teacher – Student: Issues on Effective Interaction* (January 9).
- On January 30, NGO *Ar Rukh Khaq* carried out seminar on *State Bankruptcy* in the CSSC' training room.
- In January, the Center's Director conducted Performance Appraisal of the personnel.
- Galym Zhukupbayev met Ulzhan Kanzhigalina (Regional Training Coordinator) on February 20 to discuss training request to AED on organization of the seminar *Marketing & Promotion of NGO Service*.
- Program Assistant – Aziza Imangalieva organized the meeting of representatives of Counterpart International and local NGOs, and made a relevant minutes-book.
- Program Assistant performed questionnaire poll among focus NGOs according to the request of Judith Kaufman. The research is aimed at NGO data collection to be used for USAID new proposal design.
- On February 4, Program Coordinator participated in presentation of the project *Interpreting Service for Deaf People*, initiated by NGO *Umit* with financial support of Chevron Corporation.
- The CSSC assisted NGO *City Center of Women's Initiatives* in conducting of the training on *Art of Communication* (February 17 – 19) to improve oratory skills among managers of women organizations.
- The CSSC staff participated in regular Quarterly meeting held on March 12 – 14 in Almaty.
- The Center organized 3-day training *Human Rights in Kazakhstan and in the World* initiated by NGO *Opened World*.
- In January, close cooperation of Coordinators of Zhalghas' Program and Regional & Country Community Outreach resulted in adjustment of the training module *Social Partnership* (inclusion

of session on participatory M&E) and in planning and conducting of PCA research on community network organization.

### **Community Outreach**

- The CSSC' activity was focused on research of community network creation, CAG evaluation and NGOs' capacity strengthening in advocacy.
- On January 10 and 28, Community Outreach Coordinator and *ZHALGHAS* staff met representatives of Association of Societies *Baspana* and Institute of Ecology and Sustainable Development to discuss cooperation issues and share views concerning community network building in Almaty region. In this connection, a project on rural network development in Narynkol County was designed and submitted to the World Bank.
- On January 15, Zhalghas' Program Coordinator performed monitoring & evaluation of the project Water Supply in Bes Aghash, implemented by Association of Societies *Baspana*. As a result of the project realization each of 60 targeted households save around 1,200 KZT (\$8) on water utilization.
- *Greenhouse building* by NGO *Aq Bota* was evaluated on February 11. In addition to two planned greenhouses, the community mobilization and cooperation with international agencies (MASHAV, Israel Embassy, UNICEF) and Akimat of Turksib District resulted in building of three extra complexes, aimed at nutrition improvement in local vulnerable families.
- *Creation & Development of Organization of Relatives having In-Patients* was assessed on January 13. Due to the project implementation by NGO *Asar-Service*, 80 diseased people were provided by in-door care and treatment, whereas 18 women were trained and employed.
- The project "*Azamat*" *Farmers Community Development* was evaluated on January 25. Under the project, technical base was created and a partnership was set with Akimat of Malovodnensky Rural District of Enbekshi-Kazakh County.
- On February 21, Nurlan Zhumabekov in coordination with Galym Zhukupbayev conducted advocacy follow-up (February 21) addressed to representatives of *ZHALGHAS*' 8 target NGOs. The follow-up covered analysis of advocacy lessons, related prospect plan design, and social issues that require organization of advocacy campaigns and mass media outreach.

## **2. Agency for Social Technologies & Development (ASTRa), Aqmola Oblast, Astana**

### **Internal Capacity Building**

- The CSSC' Director – Galia Omarova and Accountant – Gul'nara Kazhenova compiled financial report on the quarterly basis (October – December 2002). In addition, yearly report was compiled and submitted to Tax Collection Department.
- Due to leave of Boragoz Buralkieva (January 24), a new employee – Gul'nara Nasanova was assigned a Program Assistant in the Center (March 3).
- Three project proposals were designed: *M&E Promotion* (\$7,914 project, submitted to the Eurasia Foundation); *Rural Community Mobilization through Conducting of the Training School* for NGOs and Initiative Groups in Aqmola Oblast (\$3,000 project, submitted to the Soros-Kazakhstan Fund); and *Conducting of Public Awareness Campaign* (submitted to the World Bank). The project *Conducting Public Expertise of a draft law On NGOs* is under development.
- *ASTRa* corresponded with Moscow organizations – *Inter Training* and *Mission L* to set a partnership in conducting joint seminars.
- In the reporting period, 354 clients visited the Center, whereas total number of provided consultations was 73 (including consulting on *Healthy Communities* and *Resource Mobilization Programs*). As new grant & health programs started, there was a growth in clients' visits.
- The CSSC staff participated in the following meetings with / in:
  - Astana NGOs and Kazakhstan Bureau of Human Rights Protection (January 30);
  - PR Coordinator of the World Bank (January 9);
  - Workshops on design of draft law *On NGOs* organized by Ministry of Culture, Information & Public Accord (January 22 and February 19);
  - Strategic planning of the CSSC network (Qaraghandy, January 23 – 25);

- Consultative Council of Astana NGOs under Plenipotentiary on Human Rights in the Republic of Kazakhstan (January 31 and February 18);
- Strategic plan meeting with Marat Aitmagambetov (February 6);
- Service Presentation to the regional NGOs of Pavlodar, Petropavl, Kokshetau and Ekibastuz;
- Round table of the National Network of Independent Observers (February 18);
- ABA' Round table on creation of Legal Center for Astana NGOs;
- IREX' Regional Development Director and Coordinator of Program of Russian NGO Development (February 28);
- Counterpart's regular Quarterly meeting in Almaty;
- ASTRa' Governing Board (March 14);
- Meeting with UNDP representatives to discuss cooperation in the project *Civil Society Capacity Strengthening in 2004 Elections*;
- INTRAC' Regional Consultative Group (March 7, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan);
- Meeting with INTRAC' representatives to conduct follow-up for participants of the training on *Resource Mobilization* (March 15).
- Regular meeting of Government workgroup on draft law *On Social State Delivery* (March 25).
- The resource base was updated in February (information lists, boards, library, service registration book etc.).
- On February 11 – 12, *ASTRa* provided the Resource Center *Decent* of Pavlodar with comprehensive consultations in NGO development and service delivery.
- The Program staff participated in the following trainings and seminars:
- *Membership Development* (Almaty, March 11 – 12);
- INTRAC' *Tools for Data Collection in Monitoring & Evaluation* (March 18 – 20);
- *Monitoring & Evaluation* (March 25 – 26);
- *Mobilization Resources* (March 17 – 19).

### **Community Outreach**

- The CSSC' activity was focused on its capacity strengthening in administration of local Grant Committee, training of NGOs in monitoring & evaluation, and research on prospects of creation of community network.
- February 4 and 12, the CSSC' Program Coordinators (Bibigul Salykova and Elena Cavel'eva) performed PCA to research prospects for community network development in Prigorodny and Uspeno-Yur'evka Villages. The research revealed a presence of common problems (unemployment, water supply, poor conditions of roads, lack of kindergartens and leisure centers) in 11 neighboring villages.
- M&E training was conducted on March 26 – 27 with participation of 21 representatives of 14 non-governmental organizations as well as officials of NGO Info-Center of Astana.
- On March 28, the CSSC held local Grant Committee with its members – officials of Department of Labor & Social Protection, Ministry of Culture, Information & Public Accord of the Republic of Kazakhstan, UNDP, the World Bank, and local NGOs – the National Center of Human Rights and Agro-Consulting Center. In addition, representatives of local Akimat and Maslikhat were among the meeting's observers. One project *Public Center "Aidyn"* by initiative group of Zarechny Village was approved out of 4 examined proposals.
- 7 volunteers of the CSSC participated in Nauryz Seasonal Party, organized for a non-profit sector of Astana.

### **3. Entrepreneurship Development Agency SMEDA, Aqtobe Oblast, Aqtobe**

#### **Internal Capacity Building**

- The CSSC continued its technical service delivery on chargeable basis (copy, printing, fax).
- In January, there was a second meeting of Interaction Council with participation of Department of Internal Policy, municipal Akimat and Tax Collection Agency. The meeting included issues of creation of Charity Corporate Fund. In addition, Oblast Akimat announced a contest of the best social project to be designed by local youth organizations.

- The CSSC' Director – Abai Myrkhin and Program Manager – Kairat Kunshashev participated in Round tables organized by Department of Internal Policy of Aqtobe Oblast: *On Socio-economic Development in Aqtobe region and Methods of Problem Solving, and Prospects in Rural Development*.
- The Support Center moved to new office by the date fixed, and now it is located in the building of Oblast Department of Information & Public Accord.
- Kairat Kunshashev (Program Manager) and Marina Tsygankova (Program Coordinator) were discharged from the program duties, and now, serve as trainers in the CSSC. Zhalghas Nauruzbaev and Zhanat Ermagambetova were assigned to the reopened positions.
- Volunteers Club of Aqtobe is managed by Miramgul Il'asova – SMEDA' staff member. Under her leadership, a number of meetings were conducted in the Support Center. Moreover, volunteers assisted Society of Paralyzed People *Zhan* in organization of charitable free lunches for invalids.
- Nurlan Zhumabekov consulted the CSSC in planning and conducting of CAG monitoring & evaluation, analysis of community outreach program and PCA research on rural network creation.
- Abai Myrkhin, a Director of the CSSC SMEDA, participated in regular Quarterly meeting, held in Almaty.

### **Community Outreach**

- The CSSC' activity was focused on skills development in participatory monitoring & evaluation, volunteerism and advocacy strengthening.
- On January 16, the CSSC Executive Director (Kairat Kunshashev) and Program Coordinator (Marina Tsygankova) performed final evaluation of the following community projects:
- *Play & Sport Ground Building* implemented by Consumers' Cooperative *Kamkor* in November last year. The research displayed the project's full completion according to the designed action plan.
- (jointly with Nurlan Zhumabekov) *Major Overhaul of the Roof* completed by Consumers' Cooperative *Natasha* in Chromtau in October 2002. M&E process showed a close cooperation of the project's executives with local state bodies (Akimat and Housing Association).
- Monitoring of the implementation of *Building of Drinking Water Storage* in Shubarkuduk Village of Temir County revealed a lag in course of the project. Therefore, corresponding recommendations were made by the CSSC' staff to ensure the project's proper realization.
- On February 11, Kairat Kunshashev and Nurlan Zhumabekov conducted advocacy follow-up for local NGOs. The meeting covered discussion of challenges in advocacy development in the region and design of subsequent recommendations.
- In February, dwellers of Moscow District of Aqtobe and representatives of Aqtobe branch of public organization *Women of the East* participated in PCA research on issues of creation of community networks. Despite existing premature factors for the network creation in given neighborhoods, current joint decision making and problems solving enable the communities to consolidate their efforts and initiatives.
- The Support Center opened its Volunteers Club under the leadership of Meiramgul Il'asova. The club consists of 8 volunteers and assist local NGOs in various issues, namely organization of charitable lunches for society of paralyzed people *Zhan* ("Soul") and social program in public organization *Pokolenie* ("Generation").

## **4. Nuclear Test Victims Union IRIS, East-Kazakhstan Oblast, Semey**

### **Internal Capacity Building**

- The Support Center has signed a partnership agreement with a British organization *Mouchel* Consulting Company to execute a joint project *Sustainable Land-Use* financed by DFID. In the project's framework during two years, the CSSC implements its activity in the areas, located in close proximity to former nuke test site. The \$20,000 project aims at PCA/PRA research, CBO development and community mobilization through participatory design of action plan on sustainable land use in the given counties.
- In January, representatives of local Akimat applied to the CSSC to assist in youth mobilization in rural areas of the region. Also, Department of Agriculture turned to *IRIS* for help farming projects

design in the framework of UNDP Program. In this connection, the CSSC and the state bodies develop action plan.

- A number of regional NGOs, communities and initiative groups were advised and consulted in registration and other legal issues, NGO establishment, and projects design. Initiative group of the *Boarding House for Elders and Invalids* plans to organize a NGO to protect rights of vulnerable people. Another local initiative group turned to the CSSC' assistance in formation of public association to promote healthy lifestyle among young people.
- In the framework of *Healthy Communities Program*, the Support Center designed relevant press release that was diffused to regional NGOs, Department of Public Health, rural Akimats and published in local mass media: two TV channels, two newspapers and one radio station. 13 letters of interest were submitted from organizations-applicants to participate in the first seminar. Besides, *IRIS* consulted local NGOs in community action plan design.
- On January 21, *IRIS* staff participated in Round table, organized by NGO Institute of Legal Improvement. The main issue was NGO awareness about the network conception and prospects for creation of local networks. In March, the Center took part in Round table *Challenges & Prospects of NGO Sector Development in Semey Region: Role of the CSSC in the Region's Development through Social Partnership*.
- One of the major accomplishments done by the CSSC *IRIS* in partnership with eco organizations of Kazakhstan was successful anti-nuclear campaign that resulted in official ban of import of radioactive waste into the country.
- Gul'sum Kakimzhanova, a Director, and Gul'mira Beketova, a Manager, participated in regular Quarterly meeting held in Almaty in March.

### **Community Outreach**

- The CSSC' activity was focused on community development, PCA research on rural network development, consulting in project design, and CAG monitoring & evaluation.
- In February, participatory evaluation of the community project *Repairs of School Windows* was carried out in Sarzhal Village of Abai Rayon, and showed its full completion evidenced by significant improvement of the school conditions in winter period. Currently, the Support Center provides post-project consultations and technical assistance. Besides, PCA research displayed the presence of common problems that need to be solved by joint efforts through establishment of inter-communal structures among neighboring villages. As a first step, the locals, being consulted by the CSSC, proposed a new project design *Kornekte Auyl* ("Model Village").

## **5. Social Corporate Foundation ZUBR, East-Kazakhstan Oblast, Ust-Kamenogorsk**

### **Internal Capacity Building**

- For better functioning of *ZUBR*' Board of Trustees, one of its members – L. V. Bobryshev was selected to participate in the financial training, organized by the Eurasia Foundation and Institute of Opened Society.
- Natalie Terekhova – Program Coordinator participated in Strategic Plan meeting in Qaraghandy on January 23 – 25.
- The CSSC' staff meeting of January 9 resulted in 2003 strategic plan design, new project ideas development, and of social partnership with state bodies, and internal rules & procedures review.
- After successful participation in project contest on *Organization of E-Riders / Mobile Consultants in Oskemen* the Support Center received equipment to systematize its computer communication.
- With aim of monitoring and analysis of information on the Center's seminars, *ZUBR* designed database in *Access* program that includes data on organizations, trainings and their participants. To the point, approximate number of NGOs in the region is over 500 organizations, and only 30% of them are actively working in the social sector. To increase interaction among NGOs and raise public awareness about social programs, *ZUBR* in cooperation with Department of Information & Public Accord launched design and publication of reference book on NGOs of East Kazakhstan.
- In January, the CSSC signed agreement on its office space extension that enabled the Center to set effective work with its clients.

- Due to receipt of Law degree by Alla Kozlyatkina, a Program Coordinator, the Support Center is able to provide additional legal consulting to its beneficiaries.
- Effective January 1, a new system of technical consulting delivery was launched under the project of the Soros-Kazakhstan Fund. The system *Providers of Technical Assistance* enables the Center to deliver its service in the regions during site visits.
- Total number of consultations comprised 167 that covered the issues of sustainable development and grant program, information on donors, project design, financial reporting and accounting.
- The CSSC staff participated in the following events:
  - Dialog Club meetings of 15 local NGOs (January 31 and March 25) to sum up activity for 2002, and presentation of social programs for 2003, and to discuss draft law *On State Social Delivery*;
  - Meeting of Board of Trustees (February 11) to report the CSSC' activities for 2002 and design action & strategic plans for the following year;
  - Round table of February 25 to discuss a strategy of realization of the National education project *Summer School for NGOs*, and form action group to design the training program;
  - Meeting with NGO Belovod'e to define concerted strategy in forthcoming elections to Maslikhat;
  - Regular Quarterly meetings in Almaty (by Natalie Terekhova and Vadim Litvinov);
  - Seminars on *Statistics Report* and *Yearly Tax Reporting* (March 12 – 13), conducted by Statistics and Tax Collection Departments of Oskemen;
  - Seminar *Membership Development* (March 11 – 12);
  - Presentation of UNDP' National Report on *Rural Development in Kazakhstan: challenges & perspectives* (March 26);
  - Conference-seminar *Decision Making in Small & Medium Businesses* (March 6), organized by Pragma Corporation.
- In the framework of mass media outreach, series of articles about NGO development in the region were published by the Center in local newspaper *Rudnyi Altai* ("Ore Altai").
- In March, on the request by East University of Humanities, several students of its Department of Psychology & Social Studies performed internship through conducting a research of psychological climate in the Support Center. By given process, ZUBR staff experienced a new partnership and interaction with higher educational institutes.
- On March 12 – 13, trainers of the CSSC conducted 2-days paid training *Personnel Management* for managers of departments of internal policy. Given seminar was requested by the Center to train state officials on fee-paid basis.

### **Community Outreach**

- The CSSC' activity was focused on CAG evaluation, consulting in community project design, NGOs' strengthening in monitoring & evaluation of social programs.
- In January – February, ZUBR staff – Alla Kozlyatkina and Natalie Terekhova conducted four final assessments of the following community projects:
  - *Hope in Future* by socio-corporative fund *Shyghys* ("East"); due to the project implementation, an initiative action group is formed and well organized, and independently maintain the project's achievements in hostels of vulnerable families. In addition, the NGO carried out PCA in hostels No. 13 and 15 on Myzy Street and designed projects on *Bakery Shop Organization* to be submitted in the framework of Counterpart's additional CAG;
  - *"Focus" Fitness Center Building* by public organization *Zelyonaya Ulitsa* – Green Street of Ridder Town; the projects implementation significantly increased involvement of local youth in healthy lifestyle and resulted in decision making to train them in leadership;
  - Information & Legal Assistance to Disabled Women by East Kazakhstan Branch of Society of Women-Invalids; a social partnership is established with municipal and Oblast bodies through successful advocacy campaigns and community mobilization. In addition, self-help team, formed from the initiative group, was able to get and return credits totaled 150,000 KZT (\$987) given by Fund for Support of Vulnerable People *Shyghys*;

- *Building of the Neighborhood's Fitness Club* by Women's Support Center *Nezabudka*); in addition to appropriate completion of the project, its executors designed further action plan and youth outreach program.
- In March, the CSSC ZUBR conducted training on *Monitoring & Evaluation of Social Projects* for representatives of local NGOs and state bodies.
- In March, two volunteers – students of East Kazakhstan State University assisted the CCSC' staff in updating of data on international donor agencies and translation of various documentation.

## **6. Association of NGOs of Kostanai oblast, Kostanai**

### **Internal Capacity Building**

- On January 6, the meeting with Akim of Qostanai Oblast – Umirzak Shukeyev was held to discuss the project *Creation of Innovational Charity 2% Fund*. The project received support by the local governor.
- The CSSC staff meeting was aimed at its program review, action plan design, documentation check back, indicators achievement consideration, and recommendations design, the following:
  - Rationalization of time management in service delivery and consulting;
  - Improvement in client registration system.
- The service, delivered to over 50 NGOs and 19 initiative groups, included the assistance in fundraising, documentation and project design, NGO management, and consulting in guideline of *Healthy Communities Program*.
- The library was updated by receipt of over 55 periodicals that were used by 49 client NGOs.
- On February 4, 26 participants of General meeting of Association of NGOs discussed presentation of *Healthy Communities Program*, re-election in Board of Association and creation of its governing body, social partnership and corporate charity development. New structure of a Board of the Association was presented at the meeting of Interaction Council of executive, representative powers and NGOs of Qostanai Oblast. The Council's activity was also included in future report of UNDP.
- The CSSC staff participated in the following meetings:
  - Presentation of the Center's activity and *Healthy Communities Program* to women's organizations (February 2), organized by Commission on Women & Family under the Oblast's Akim;
  - Presentation of *Healthy Communities Program* at the meeting of Coordination Council (February 21);
  - Meeting with Associations of Consumers' Cooperatives (March 17) to set partnership in conducting Counterpart's trainings;
  - Regular Quarterly meeting (by Dmitry Day and Almat Kaibzhanov).
- On February 17 – 20, trainers of the CSSC – Almat Kaibzhanov and Irina Ortner performed training *Civil Participation in Local Self-Management* addressed to state officials of local akimats.
- The project design on *Development of Civil Initiatives* was supported by Coordination Council on Economic & Social Development of Qostanai and was submitted to the World Bank. The project includes involvement of NGOs in community problem solving and development of corporate charity.

### **Community Outreach**

- The CSSC' activity was focused on CAG monitoring & evaluation, consulting in community projects management, and PCA research on rural network creation.
- In January, the CSSC' Coordinators – Almat Kaibzhanov and Irina Ortner monitored the following community projects:
  - *Center for Adaptation of Disabled Children & their Mothers* by public organization *Raduga* ("Rainbow"). Due to power shortage that impeded computer trainings, the project was given one month extension;

- *Development of Folk Art* by initiative group of Kazakh repatriates from Mongolia in public organization *Oralman*. Due to the lack of knowledge in legal & market issues, the community was thoroughly consulted in legislative base and promotion of art products;
- *Repairs & Technical Maintenance of “October” Club for Hearing-impaired People* by public organization *Qostanai Oblast Association of Kazakh Society of Deaf People*. The project is under proper implementation according to its action plan;
- In February, the CSSC’ employees conducted PCA to research prospects for creating a community network development in area of small-family hostels of Qostanai where major and common problems were revealed (anti-sanitary conditions, decayed roofs & doorways / entrances, alcoholism and unemployment). Participatory action plan on community mobilization, designed jointly with the initiative group, serves as a prerequisite for creation of first mini-networks in given neighborhoods.

## **7. Qaraghandy Regional Ecological Center *ECOCENTER*, Qaraghandy oblast, Qaraghandy Internal Capacity Building**

- Performance appraisal of *ECOCENTER*’ personnel was carried out in January to identify and strengthen its capacity & professionalism.
- The following seminars were organized and conducted during the reporting period:
- In the framework of ecologic education, a number of seminars for schoolteachers of Qaraghandy, Temirtau and Saran’. (January 6, 30, 16 –17 relatively);
- *Advocacy* seminar in the framework of *NGO Support School* and *Women Leadership* (January 20 – 22);
- *Women in Politics*, financed by OSCE (February 28);
- *Design of Welfare on Education for sustainable development of children* (February 28 – March 4);
- *Membership Development* (March 11 – 12);
- *Adaptation of Eco Campaigns to Local Conditions*, organized by Eco Forum of Kazakhstan NGOs and financed by Milieukontakt Oost-Europa (March 16);
- *Internet* training in Kazakh language for school-students, financed by IREX (March 17 – 21).
- *ECOCENTER* organized the CSSCs’ meeting on strategic planning in Qaraghandy on January 23 – 24.
- On January 27 and February 7, regular meetings of NGOs accepted Statute of Council of NGOs of Qaraghandy Oblast and were aimed at development of strategic plan for 2003.
- The CSSC’ Executive Director – Lyudmila Kurtavtseva participated in international conference (February 1 – 4) under the program *SPARE* and presented training and educational processes in Qaraghandy Oblast.
- On February 4, the CSSC staff participated in public hearings on the issues import of radioactive waste into Kazakhstan.
- The organization’s bulletin is published on weekly basis and covers the program being implemented by *ECOCENTER*.
- On February 18, the CSSC organized a meeting of Ministry of International Development of the Great Britain and the regional NGOs to cover the issues of civil development, grant programs, social project in the oblast.
- On February 25, the CSSC staff participated in design of schedule for *NGO Summer School* in the framework of the Soros-Kazakhstan Fund program.
- The CSSC Program Manager – Meruert Kurmashova participated in the seminar *Start Your Own Business*, organized by the National commission on women & family under the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan in cooperation with UN Bureau Gender & Development (March 27).
- The CSSC Executive Director – Lyudmila Kurtavtseva took part in regular Quarterly meeting held in Almaty.

## **Community Outreach**

- The CSSC’ activity was focused on CAG monitoring & evaluation, projects consulting and PCA research on community network development.
- In February – March, an Executive Director – Lyudmila Kurtavtseva and Program Coordinator – Meruert Kurmasheva conducted monitoring of the following community projects:
- *Strengthening & Development of the Resource Center* by the initiative group of the secondary school in Shashubai Village of Aqtoghai County. The project is near to its completion and involves other neighboring small schools in its realization. It was recommended to strengthen the project by nutrition improvement in the target school. On February 7, the CSSC performed PCA to research prospects for community network development in the rural area of Shashubai, Tasaral, Toranghylyq and Ortaderesyn Villages. PCA results revealed capacity to establish a network based on local schools.
- *Bio Gas for the Children’ Needs* by the initiative group of Orphanage in Novodolinka Village of Abai County. The project implementation reduced the community’s dependency on outer power supply and strengthened partnership with state bodies in form of consultative council.
- On March 18, Lyudmila Kurtavtseva participated in presentation of Public Center *Enthusiast* in Dubovka Village with participation of local state officials of Saran’ Akimat. The Center was opened in the framework of the project *Nash Dom* (“Our Home”) under implementation of the initiative group of Dubovka Village.
- In the end of March, the CSSC *ECOCENTER* consulted the regional initiative groups in design of two community’s projects to be granted by additional Counterpart’s CAG program.

**Table Of Services**

Service	ZHALGHAS-Counterpart	ASTRa	SMEDA	ECO CENTER	Qostanai Oblast	IRIS	ZUBR
Number of visitors	50	158	140	126	156	450	146
Number new visitors	15	53	41	19	27	60	19
Number of visits	234	354	323	170	257	640	254
Number of NGOs receiving services	600	74	75	66	67	90	46
Number of CBOs, initiative groups receiving services	32	28	19	20	16	24	40
Number of volunteers recruited for NGOs	9	5	6	1	0	2	0
Number of trainings	3	5	3	2	3	3	8
Number of consultations	110	98	143	501	127	395	167
Number of times Computer/Internet/E-mail was used	430	177	73	193	47	750	60
Number of times copy machine was used	0	745	66	155	59	105	69
Number of copies	0	11758	535	4532	1858	6600	645
Number of times Phone/Fax was used	113	348	2	171	26	80	39
Number of PCAs conducted	2	4	1	3	2	4	1
Number of CAPs developed	0	0	0	2	0	3	1

## Kyrgyzstan

### Activity Overview Common for all CSSCs

- The *Soros Foundation* earmarked \$55,518 for CSSCs of *Batken, Karakol, Jalalabad, Kara-Balta, Osh, Naryn* and *Talas* to continue providing the services to local NGOs in 2003. The CSSCs have been contracted to administer grants, being provided by the Soros Foundation, provide information support, and deliver consultations and training workshops. The Managers of these CSSCs participated in the meeting with Soros Foundation held on March 11 in Bishkek and discussed details of their proposals and specified operational budgets.
- The training on *Membership Development* was conducted on February 17-19 in Jalalabad for the CSSCs Managers and Assistants. The Training Coordinator N. Tesina and Assistant of Karakol CSSC A. Ryskuliev conducted this training. The aim of it was to increase the effectiveness and sustainability of membership NGOs (MNGOs). The training module covers a broad range of topics including: basic features, types, principles and organizational structures of MNGOs, differences between membership and non-membership organizational forms, internal and external clients of MNGOs, mechanisms of effective interaction with members, recruitment and motivation, membership fees, problems and threats facing MNGOs, etc. The practical part of the training includes exercise aimed at working out a membership development strategy for particular NGOs. The training is supposed to assist CSSCs in enhancing their consultations for local NGOs and CBOs in membership development issues.
- Within the framework of the new TACIS-funded project *Promoting Entrepreneurship at a Grass-root Level*, the CPD consultant Peter Sauer designed and conducted the project planning workshop on March 3-6, 2003 in Bishkek, where the staff of CSSCs of Kara-Balta and Nookat participated. The objectives of the project-planning workshop included: (1) basic training in Log Frame methodology, (2) revision of project document, esp. project narrative and indicators, (3) revision and finalization of plan of operation (work plan), and (4) definition of roles and responsibilities of CCK and CPD and CSSCs.
- On March 10-14, the Hub Office organized the training workshop on *Impact Evaluation and Community Foundation* within a framework of EU Project “*Strengthening Community Participation in Building Civil Society in Kyrgyzstan*”. Managers and Assistants of CSSC of Batken, Osh, Kerben, Talas, Karakol and Kant took part in the workshop, where they gained new knowledge and expertise in identifying impacts of the EU program and community projects. The knowledge and expertise on community foundation was very useful in terms of sustainability of the community projects. Mr. Peter Sauer, the Consultant of Counterpart Germany, conducted this training.

### 1. Batken CSSCs (BT)

#### Activity Overview

- BT conducted the roundtable titled *Developing Social Partnership* on January 8. Representatives of local NGOs, Oblast Administration and village governments (*ayil okmotus*) attended this meeting to discuss current situation and results achieved in 2002. The participants decided to convene a meeting with wider participation of interested parties to discuss the best practices and methods of intersectoral cooperation. The task force of 3 people to organize such a meeting was elected.
- BT staff visited the NGO *Ymyt* in Balykchy (Issyk-Kul Oblast) to share experience. The visit of the *Ymyt* staff to Batken is scheduled for April, and it is expected that afterwards two organizations will develop an action plan to ensure joint collaboration.
- The BT Manager N. Aldasheva took part in the meeting of international organizations, working in the Southern Kyrgyzstan, held on March 25 in Osh. The meeting was organized by USAID and UNDP, and devoted to the issues of cooperation between CDD projects, being implemented in the South.

#### Internal Capacity Building

- On January 13-15, the BT Assistant P. Suranova took part in the training on *NGO Taxation*, conducted by AED/Start and ICNL. The new skills obtained during the workshop will be used in providing consultations to newly established organizations.
- P. Suranova took part in the seminar *Contracting Forms* conducted by the PRAGMA Corporation on January 18 in Batken. She got new skills in making legal contracts, provisions in contracts, types of contracts, etc.
- BT developed the questionnaire for clients to identify possibilities in introducing fees for training services and interviewed 15 NGOs and CBOs. After interviews, BT staff and contract trainers revealed that the questionnaire should be simplified, and currently it is being revised.
- On February 6-7, the CC Senior Program Coordinator E. Ubysheva, the Grant Department Assistants A. Arykbaeva and A. Kudaybergenov conducted an audit of the grant files and made recommendations in improving grants records keeping. The grant-making procedures have also been considered and discussed.
- The Hub Office staff conducted 4<sup>th</sup> OD assessment for BT on March 17-20. During the assessment, interviews with NGOs, CBOs, governments, and media were conducted. The assessment resulted in revision of the Action Plan on Institutional Capacity Building and Service Delivery.

### **Community Outreach**

- BT staff conducted PCA on networking in the target communities of the villages of Aigul-Tash and Yntymak with participation of 51 people. The main conclusion was that the local communities incline to develop ties with formal institutions as they seem having more resources rather than informal structures.
- During March 2003, BT conducted two seminars on *Participatory Monitoring and Evaluation* for 32 people representing initiative groups of the communities implementing projects financed within Soros programs and the *Conflict Mitigation Grant Program* of Counterpart.
- BT designed and installed an information stand *Referendum on Constitutional Reform: Pro and Cons* in order to educate leaders of local NGOs and CBOs in the issues related to the content of proposed amendments. The information materials for the stand, which was installed in the office in Isfana, were collected from online resources.

## **2. Bishkek CSSCs (BS)**

### **Activity Overview**

- BS disseminated information about training workshops conducted by Freedom House and INTRAC among local NGOs, and prepared list of youth NGOs for the TACIS project *Preserving Biodiversity*.
- The CIB Director Asyia Sasykbaeva took part in the meeting of OSCE Representative D. Everts with local NGOs.
- The CIB Director Asyia Sasykbaeva took part in the conference *Implications of the New Constitution for NGO Sector*, conducted by NDI on March 28 in Bishkek.

### **Internal Capacity Building**

- On March 3-6, the BS Manager B. Muratalieva and PR Assistant E. Voronina took part in the fifth training workshops in *Analytic Methods*, which is the last part of the 8-months series of 5 training modules being conducted by INTRAC. The final module was about research methods.
- On March 20, the CC Grant Department Assistant V. Esaulenko conducted an audit of the grant files and made recommendations in improving in keeping financial records.
- In order to improve information services, the BS staff has been updating list and contact information of Bishkek-based NGOs and representative offices of international organizations.

### **Community Outreach**

- The BS staff conducted PCA on networking in the target communities of the new residential areas of Archa-Beshik and Ak-Bosogo. The main conclusion was that the communities give high

priority to develop links with other CBOs and NGOs, especially with those who deal with self-help groups.

- Together with NGO Arysh, BS conducted monitoring of the income-generation project being implemented by the members of Ak-Bosogo community. The main observation was that microcredit component has been developing successfully.
- BS initiated a public campaign on postponing the date of the *Referendum on Constitutional Reform*, in the framework of which appeals to the President, Jogorku Kenesh (Parliament), Ombudsman, and international organizations were prepared and publicized. The BS staff disseminated the appeal among local NGOs, mass media, and more than 150 organizations signed the appeal. Bishkek office became a target for harassment introduced by Association of NGOs and NPOs. BS and Interbilim staffs were able to oppose such harassments in effective ways.
- On March 3, the BS staff conducted a roundtable devoted to the issues of introducing VAT for major agricultural producers. The meeting was attended by 39 people representing NGOs, farmer unions, Jogorku Kenesh, mass media and political parties. The roundtable resulted in adopting and publicizing an appeal to revoke the Governmental Decree on introducing VAT for major agricultural producers.

### **3. Jalalabad CSSCs (JA)**

#### **Activity Overview**

- The representatives of Peace Corps Ms. S. Brown and G. Torokulova visited JA on January 10 to collect information on NGOs of Jalalabad Oblast who are willing to host Peace Corps volunteers (PCVs). They informed the JA staff, that PCVs might work both in communities and NGOs and assist communities in developing local economies. The application forms and guidelines will be ready and sent to JA by April 2003.
- The UN Liaison Officers A. Khanzhin and I. Solntsev visited JA to familiarize themselves with its activities, plans for the future and discuss information sharing and collaboration issues.
- On March 5, JA met with ACDI/VOCA team and gave information about target communities. The ACDI/VOCA intends to increase number of their pilot communities in Jalalabad Oblast, and JA recommended them to pick up the communities where PCAs have already been conducted.
- On March 25, the JA Manager E. Mavlyanova took part in the meeting of international organizations, working in the Southern Kyrgyzstan. The meeting was organized by USAID and UNDP, and devoted to the issues of cooperation between CDD projects, being implemented in the South.

#### **Internal Capacity Building**

- The JA staff discussed and commented the internal policies on the meeting held on January 17 and revised them accordingly.
- The JA Grant Manager N. Myinbaeva participated in the international seminar on Human Rights Monitoring and Reporting Procedures, conducted by the Foundation for Support of Legal and Economic Reforms (FSLER) with support of Helsinki Foundation on Human Rights (Poland). The seminar was held in Osh on March 24-26.
- During March, JA established Advisory Board of 7 people, representing local governments, NGO and mass media. The JA staff conducted series of individual meetings with all members and scheduled the first meeting for April 2003.

#### **Community Outreach**

- JA hosted a meeting of leaders of target communities to analyze implementation of CAGs-achievements, delays, reasons for postponing activities, etc. The project leaders submitted letters on extending the project terms to the Hub Office. The participants also discussed reporting on PM&E.
- JA staff conducted PCA on networking in the target community Tashtak. This community has been proactive in forming the network of communities of 19 localities called *Yrys Aldy Yntymak*. To date, the internal procedures and charter have been developed. PCA resulted in identifying such priorities of communities in networking as sharing resources and rallying people.

#### **4. Kant CSSCs (KN)**

##### **Activity Overview**

- T. Temirova took part in the Assembly of Business Women and Women Leadership, held in Moscow on March 4-7. The Assembly was organized and conducted by the Administration of the President of Russia.
- T. Temirova together with trainer-consultant R. Walls from the *NGO Catalyst* (Great Britain) conducted training workshop on *Resource Mobilization/ Social Marketing* for local NGOs on March 17-19. The training was sponsored by INTRAC.

##### **Internal Capacity Building**

- The KN Manager T. Temirova participated in the training workshop *Case Study*, conducted by INTRAC On February 28 in Almaty. The participants were introduced to case-study techniques and methods of collecting/extracting information.
- On March 3-6, the KN Assistant A. Dungaeva took part in the fifth training workshops in *Analytic Methods*, which is the last part of the 8-months series of 5 training modules being conducted by INTRAC, and devoted to research methods. A. Dungaeva presented research on the impact of micro credit projects of Alga NGO on livelihood of women in Issyk-Ata Rayon.
- The member of the Stakeholders Committee A. Joldosheva took part in the training workshop in *Improving Services in Reproductive Health through Enhancing opportunities for Customers*, held by UNFPA on March 29-31.
- On March 25, V. Esaulenko conducted an audit of the grant files and made recommendations in improving in keeping financial and program records.

##### **Community Outreach**

- KN was focusing on providing consultations in registration to the target communities of Ivanovka, Krasnaya Rechka, Chon-Daly and Otogon. As a result, the community of Ivanovka was registered as *public association Adept*, and applications for registration of the communities of Krasnaya Rechka and Chon-Daly are in the pipeline.
- In February, KN conducted PCA on networking in the target community of Krasnaya Rechka and Otogon. The communities identified the needs in ensuring community networks as learning/sharing experience, information exchange, joining efforts in rural development, etc.
- On March 31, KN hosted a meeting of refugee leaders to discuss requirements and procedures of distributing one-time assistance among refugees in 2003.

#### **5. Kara-Balta CSSCs (KB)**

##### **Activity Overview**

- On January 13, KB organized and conducted a meeting of 17 NGOs with the Deputy Akim Mrs. R. Abduraimova, who is in charge of social issues.
- On January 24-27, K. Abraliev took part in the seminar titled *Institutionalization of President-Parliament Relations in Post-Soviet Countries*, conducted by American University in Central Asia with support of the Soros Foundation.

##### **Internal Capacity Building**

- On January 22, KB hired new bookkeeper T. Rakymbaeva, chosen as the most successful candidate based on interviews and results of the basic bookkeeping tests conducted with 4 short-listed applicants.
- The KB Manager K. Abraliev participated in the training workshop *Case Study*, conducted by INTRAC On February 28 in Almaty. The participants were introduced to case-study techniques and methods of collecting/extracting information.
- On March 3-6, K. Abraliev took part in the fifth training workshops in *Analytic Methods*, which is the last part of the 8-months series of 5 training modules being conducted by INTRAC. The final module was about research methods.

- The KB Assistant L. Keldibekova took part in the training seminar *Business Incubator* conducted by NGO *Women Congress* on March 11-14 in Kara-Balta. The participants obtained basic skills in developing business plans and met with credit-making institutions to learn about application procedures and requirements.
- On March 13, KB hired new Citizenship Assistant A. Nasyraliev, chosen as most successful candidate based on interviews with 5 pre-selected applicants. As part of his capacity building, he took part in the training in PCA held on March 16-22, conducted within the Counterpart Program *Healthy Communities*.

### **Community Outreach**

- The KB staff conducted a training workshop for the 13 facilitators to build their skills in conducting PM&E.
- Together with INTRAC, KB conducted a roundtable titled *Strengthening Social Partnership* in Jayl Rayon on February 10. The representatives of target community of Kara-Tube, the Hub Office, NGO Ymyt (Issyk-Kul Oblast), communities of Talas Oblast and Jambyl Oblast (Kazakhstan) attended this meeting and shared actual experience in social partnership.
- On February 14, KB conducted PCA on networking in the target community Kara-Tube. PCA resulted in identifying such priorities of communities in networking with CBOs and NGOs, who involved in self-help group activities, and establishing cultural links with other communities.
- On January 23, KB conducted a roundtable for representatives of 15 NGO to discuss proposed amendments to the Constitution, which were included in the Referendum's agenda. The participants decided to form a team of independent observers to monitor the Referendum, and a week later, KB hosted a special meeting for the independent observers, where they have been attached to individual polling stations.
- L. Keldibekova took part in the conference *Key to Success* conducted by NDI for the trainees who participated in the training cycle in Advocacy. Representatives of 75 NGOs, local governments, mass media and international organizations attended the conference. The participants analysed the role of the civil society and mass media in lobbying changes, and results of their participation in the Referendum on Constitutional Reform.

## **6. Karakol CSSCs (KR)**

### **Activity Overview**

- On January 16, KR took part in the meeting of NGO working group in Social Partnership formed as a follow-up of the large meeting held in October 2002. The working group discussed accomplishments for the period since October 2002 and set up a plan for further actions.
- KR signed an agreement with Kumtor Operating Company (KOC) on administering small grant program to be funded by KOC. In line with this contract, a meeting of 55 local NGOs was held to elect a committee, consisting of 15 people and responsible for making decisions on grants. KOC has committed to provide a sum equivalent to USD 4,348 as grants on a yearly basis.
- The Manager B. Abdieva took part in the nationwide Curultay (assembly of people delegates) held in Bishke on March 6.
- The representatives of the Japanese Volunteers Corps visited KR on March 19 to discuss possibilities of placing their volunteers in local NGOs.

### **Internal Capacity Building**

- On January 22-24, the Coordinator A. Ryskuliev took part in the regional training workshop *Membership Development* held in Almaty. The training module was adapted for delivering to the CSSCs, and A. Ryskuliev served as co-trainer in delivering the country workshop held in Jalalabad on February 17-19.
- The annual report was drafted and approved by the staff and the Advisory Board. The report was handed over to the publishing house.
- The Hub Office staff conducted 4<sup>th</sup> OD assessment for KR on January 8-11. During the assessment, interviews with NGOs, CBOs, governments, and media were conducted. The

assessment resulted in revision of the Action Plan on Institutional Capacity Building and Service Delivery.

- On January 9, KR conducted a workshop on *Developing Governing Body* for 9 members of the Advisory Board.
- On March 17-20, A. Ryskuliev took part in the INTRAC seminar *Resource Mobilization/ Social Marketing*, held in Bishkek. He obtained new skills in analysing financial situation of an organization, income sources, introducing fees for services, etc.

### **Community Outreach**

- The KR staff conducted PCA on networking in the target community of Tepke with participation of 26 people. The main needs and priorities in developing community networks have been identified.
- KR staff provided a series of consultations to the target community of Mikhailovka in registering micro credit agency, and to the target communities of Tasma, Chon-Toguzbay and Toktoyan in establishing a community foundation. The latest three communities intend to create one community foundation, which will be serving all three communities.
- On March 28, KR hosted a roundtable *Developing Community Foundations and Assessing Impacts of Community Projects* with participation of leaders of target communities. The main agenda was to analyze implementation of current community projects, ways to complete them effectively and to share new experience gained at the Impact Monitoring training held in Bishkek on March 10-14.
- KR conducted roundtable *Effectiveness of Advocacy Campaigns* for local NGOs on January 17. The roundtable was aimed at assisting local NGOs to actively participate in discussions related to the Referendum on Constitutional Reforms.

## **7. Kerben CSSCs (KE)**

### **Activity Overview**

- T. Khamdamov took part in the session of the Rayon Kenesh, where the issue on providing local NGOs with an exemption of local tax of 3% was discussed, and it was decided to examine implications of providing tax exemptions and to include this item to the agenda for the next session. Besides, the Rayon Kenesh deputies supported the initiative of KE to earmark 1% of the Rayon budget for providing support to NGOs and CBOs. The deputies made a decision to allocate 358.000 soms for supporting civil society activities.
- KE participated in the roundtable *Civil Society in Aksy Rayon- Problems and Prospective* held on February 26 and attended by 20 people representing civil society organizations (CSOs) and local governments. The participants discussed recent CSO developments, current situation, and mechanism of coordination both within the civil society, and with local governments. In order to publicize civil society activities, it was decided to install information stand in each village government.
- On March 7, T. Khamdamov took part in the meeting, where the OSCE representatives together with local governments discussed political situation in Aksy Rayon. It was emphasized, that OSCE will support development of local communities in Aksy Rayon and likely will provide small grants. At this point, OSCE is interested in collaborating with KE, and requested a proposal from KE. The proposal currently is being developed.
- The IOM Program Operations Manager B. Isakov visited KE to learn about the implementation of the IOM-funded project aimed at installing information stands for the population near border checkpoints in order to educate people on border crossing procedures. He also discussed possibilities of opening small informational department under the KE.
- On March 25, T. Khamdamov took part in the meeting of international organizations, working in the Southern Kyrgyzstan. The meeting was organized by USAID and UNDP, and devoted to the issues of cooperation between CDD projects, being implemented in the South.

### **Internal Capacity Building**

- KE conducted a meeting of the Advisory Board on January 9, where they made comments to the annual report of the Center, and elected 2 new members.
- On January 23-25, the KE Assistant A. Kushnazarov took part in the training workshops in *NGO Taxation*, conducted by AED/Start and ICNL in Bishkek. The new skills obtained during the workshop will be used in providing consultations to newly established organizations. The training participants also discussed possibilities to organize training workshops in fields together with AED. Resulted from the training, A. Kushnazarov has been developing a small project aimed at educating field staff of Tax Inspection in specific issues of NGO Taxation.
- The Hub Office staff conducted 4<sup>th</sup> OD assessment for KE on January 17-20. The interviews with NGOs, CBOs, governments, and international organizations were conducted. The assessment resulted in revision of the Action Plan on Institutional Capacity Building and Service Delivery.
- In January, the KE staff interviewed 13 local NGOs and CBOs to identify the most demanded workshops delivered by the Center. The interviewees recognized workshops in *Project Design, Governance, Team Building, Advocacy, Fundraising* and *Human Resource Management* as the most effective and useful in terms of achieving solid results in mobilizing communities.
- In February, On February 6-7, A. Arykbaeva and C. Akmatova from hub-office conducted an audit of the grant files and made recommendations in improving grants records keeping.
- On March 17-20, A. Kushnazarov took part in the INTRAC seminar *Resource Mobilization/ Social Marketing*, held in Bishkek. He obtained new skills in analysing financial situation of an organization, income sources, introducing fees for services, etc. Based on new skills, he planned to conduct marketing research in Aksy Rayon in April.

### **Community Outreach**

- KE hosted a meeting of leaders of 8 target communities, where they analyzed last year achievements and bottlenecks in mobilizing communities. They decided to produce consolidated activities report, and to do so each community will submit individual report to KE.
- Together with the Rayon Akim A. Egemberdiev, the Manager T. Khamdamov took part in the curultay of local communities (meeting of delegates, elected by people) held in Kara-Jigach VI. The participants discussed issues of mobilizing communities. The Rayon Akim drew attention to an important role of the communities in addressing social and economic problems, and stressed that in 2002 the local communities attracted outside funding of 5 million soms, which makes 12.5% of the Rayon budget.
- In February, KE conducted PCA on networking in the target communities of Ak-Jol, Alga and Yrys. PCA resulted in identifying strong intention and sufficient capacity of local communities to form a network in order to be able to scale-up their activities.

### **8. Naryn CSSCs (NR)**

#### **Activity Overview**

- NR took part in the roundtable on discussing the development strategy for the town of Naryn for the period up to 2010. The representatives of local NGOs and territorial committees along with local governments attended this meeting. The participants made proposed some amendments to the document and requested NR to conduct workshop on Social Partnership for territorial committees.
- On February 7, NR conducted a roundtable NGO Taxation with participation of representatives of NGOs, tax inspection, social fund and the statistic committee. Participants discussed cooperation of local authorities and NGOs in registering new NGOs, and ensuring tax and social payments.
- The Bookkeeper took part in the conference NGO Taxation conducted by AED/Start and USAID on March 5-7. The participants discussed issues of keeping financial records, improving accounting in organization, procedures of payments to the fiscal authorities, etc.
- NR took part in the conference *Key to Success* conducted by NDI for the trainees who participated in the training cycle in Advocacy. The conference was attended by representatives of 75 NGOs, local governments, mass media and international organizations. The participants analysed the role of the civil society and mass media in lobbying changes, and results of their participation in the Referendum on Constitutional Reform.

### **Internal Capacity Building**

- On January 21, NR hosted the Advisory Board meeting, where the staff presented the report on last year activities. The members noted that in general the CSSC was quite successful in providing support services to the civil society organizations, but the component on social partnership needs to be strengthened. The Deputy Governor K. Sayakbaeva suggested to conduct workshop on Social Partnership for the local governments, and took obligation to provide funds to cover costs of participants.
- The NR staff conducted a meeting of contract trainers on January 21, where the trainers were interviewed to identify specific areas they need to improve skills. Based on collected data, a plan on building capacity of contract trainers was compiled.
- NR continues providing training workshops where participants cover some participation costs. One-day training workshop in *Project Design* for the *Association of Parents of Disabled Children* was conducted, which paid 750 soms.

### **Community Outreach**

- On February 27, NR conducted training seminar for 6 PCA facilitators in order to build their skills in conducting participatory appraisals on community networking.
- In February, NR conducted PCA on networking in the target community of Yugyut. PCA resulted in identifying strong intention and sufficient capacity of local communities to form a network in order to be able to scale-up their activities.
- On March 18, the NR volunteers conducted a public march to collect donations for the development of volunteers movement in Naryn Oblast. The volunteers collected 3921 som (90 USD), which were used to conduct two roundtables to discuss youth problems, and one disco party called *Your for Healthy Life Style*.
- On February 14, the Oblast Administration awarded a 2002 title “*Best NGO of Naryn Oblast*” to NR as a result of the contest conducted within the government program *Namys*.

## **9. Nookat CSSCs (NO)**

### **Activity Overview**

- On March 10, A. Abduraimov met the staff of the NGO FSLER (Osh)- implementing partner of UNHCR- to discuss cooperation and joint actions in providing assistance to the Tadjik refugees residing in Nookat Rayon in applying for the Kyrgyzstani citizenship.
- On March 25, The Manager A. Khudaiberdiev took part in the meeting of international organizations, working in the Southern Kyrgyzstan. The meeting was organized by USAID and UNDP, and devoted to the issues of cooperation between CDD projects, being implemented in the South.

### **Internal Capacity Building**

- NO was officially registered as separate NGO designated to provide support services to local civil society organizations. The rationale behind this decision was a need to separate activities of the Chernobyl Union-the mother organization for the CSSC, and the CSSC activities. The strategic plan for the CSSC was revised and based on that annual workplans for all NO staff were developed.
- On January 13-15, the NO Bookkeeper G. Safaraliev took part in the training workshops in *NGO Taxation*, conducted by AED/Start and ICNL. The new skills obtained during the workshop will be used in providing consultations to newly established organizations.
- The Grant Manager A. Abduraimov took part in the INTRAC training workshop in *Developing Network of Kazakh and Kyrgyz NGOs Dealing with Problems of Elderly People* held in Bishkek on February 24-26.
- In March, the NO staff revised division of tasks and revised responsibilities as amount of program activities significantly increased as starting January 2003 NO is actively involved in implementation of projects with funding of TACIS and UNHCR, as well as Healthy Communities of Counterpart.

- The NO staff conducted a meeting with contract trainers, where they discussed increased training needs of the CSSC clients and decided to increase the number of contract trainers. To date, 5 contract trainers signed contracts with the CSSC and contracts with the other 6 trainers are being prepared.

### **Community Outreach**

- On February 6, NO conducted training seminar for 12 PCA facilitators in order to build their skills in conducting participatory appraisals on community networking.
- In February, NO conducted PCA on networking in the target communities of Dong-Kishlok, Karanay and Kyzyr-Ata. PCA resulted in identifying strong intention and sufficient capacity of local communities to form a network in order to be able to address intercommunity issues. The community network registered as NGO Jamaat Kyuchyu conducts regular meetings of community leaders, where they so far have discussed issues of ownership and collecting membership fees.
- On February 27, NO hosted a meeting of 12 volunteers representing the Volunteer Center Lastochka and its 6 branches in the target communities. The participants discussed recent accomplishments and developed plans for further actions.
- In March 2003, A. Abduraimov visited refugee communities of Dedek-Byubyu, Naiman and Karimberdy to inform them about the UNHCR project for 2003, and discuss an intervention plan to be based on the specific needs of those refugee communities.

## **10. Osh CSSCs (OS)**

### **Activity Overview**

- On February 17, P. Manasov conducted a meeting of 15 NGOs of Kara-Kuldja Rayon and presented the new Soros Program on NGO Support, its requirements and application procedures.
- P. Manasov took part in the roundtable on Human Trafficking, held by IOM on March 14 in Osh. The representatives of local NGOs, mostly from women organizations, discussed collaboration in combating trafficking in women.
- OS hosted a roundtable in Social Partnership in Addressing Social Problems in Osh Oblast, attended by 18 people, representing 9 NGOs, local authorities and mass media. The participants have decided to focus on developing collaboration in such specific issues as fighting drug abuses among youth, and combating cases of violation of woman's rights. The preliminary plan for collaboration was developed.
- On March 25, K. Khasanova took part in the meeting of international organizations, working in the Southern Kyrgyzstan. The meeting was organized by USAID and UNDP, and devoted to the issues of cooperation between CDD projects, being implemented in the South.

### **Internal Capacity Building**

- The Hub Office staff conducted 4<sup>th</sup> OD assessment for OS on January 20-23. The interviews with NGOs, CBOs, governments, and international organizations were conducted. The assessment resulted in revision of the Action Plan on Institutional Capacity Building and Service Delivery.
- On January 13-17, the Manager K. Khasanova took part in the international training seminar in *Participatory Monitoring and Evaluation*, conducted by INTRAC in Oxford (Great Britain). She obtained new skills in PM&E tools and learned experience from other countries.
- On January 13-15, the OS Coordinator P. Manasov took part in the training workshops in *NGO Taxation*, conducted by AED/Start and ICNL. The new skills obtained during the workshop will be used in providing consultations to newly established organizations.
- On February 3-5, the CC Senior Program Coordinator E. Ubysheva, the Grant Department Assistants A. Arykbaeva and A. Kudaybergenov conducted an audit of 20 grant files and made recommendations in improving grants records keeping. The Bookkeeper G. Mamasalieva met with all target communities and completed work on implementing the given recommendations.
- On March 3-6, the OS Coordinator C. Tynaliev took part in the fifth training workshops in *Analytic Methods*, which is the last part of the 8-months series of 5 training modules being conducted by INTRAC. The final module was about research methods. P. Manasov presented research on forming strong team in NGO.

- On March 17-20, P. Manasov took part in the INTRAC seminar *Resource Mobilization/ Social Marketing*, held in Bishkek. He obtained new skills in analysing financial situation of an organization, income sources, introducing fees for services, etc.

### **Community Outreach**

- On February 12, OS conducted training seminar for 12 PCA facilitators in order to build their skills in conducting participatory appraisals on community networking.
- On February 13, OS conducted PCA on networking in the target community of Kyn-Elek. PCA resulted in identifying intention and sufficient capacity of local communities to form a network in order to be able to scale-up income-generation activities.
- On March 19, K. Khasanova visited the target community of Bek-Jar and consulted the initiative group in possible ways of registration. They discussed various legal forms- public union, public foundation, micro credit agency- and decided to apply for the public union. The founders of the new NGO have been identified.
- OS took an active part in the public campaign, initiated by BS and aimed at postponing the date of the *Referendum on Constitutional Reform*, in the framework of which appeals to the President, Jogorku Kenesh (Parliament), Ombudsman, and international organizations were prepared and publicized. The OS staff disseminated the appeal among local NGOs and mass media. Some of the OS stakeholders and their family were under pressing from Government side.

## **11. Talas CSSCs (TL)**

### **Activity Overview**

- TL conducted a roundtable on Social Partnership with participation of 30 NGOs, Oblast Administration, and local governments. The participants made a decision to develop a plan of joint activities, and TL was given responsibility to draft it and distribute among potential partners for their comments.
- On January 26, the cooperative agreement between TL and Oblast Administration on promoting development of civil society organizations in Talas Oblast was signed.
- TL signed an agreement with the Oblast Newspaper Zamana, according to which the newspaper provides a special heading to cover NGO developments.
- TL took an active part in organizing and conducting exchange tour of Kazakh NGOs to Talas held on March 4-6. This tour was sponsored by INTRAC. The visit of Talas NGOs to Kazakhstan was scheduled from April 17-18.

### **Internal Capacity Building**

- The Hub Office staff conducted 4<sup>th</sup> OD assessment for TL on February 13-14. The interviews with NGOs, CBOs, governments, and international organizations were conducted. The assessment resulted in revision of the Action Plan on Institutional Capacity Building and Service Delivery.
- On March 6-7, the TL Bookkeeper N. Musuralieva took part in the training workshops in *NGO Taxation*, conducted by AED/Start and ICNL. The new skills obtained during the workshop will be used in providing consultations to newly established organizations.
- The Assistant C. Akulova took part in the training on *Establishing Volunteers Centers*, conducted by the League of Volunteers on January 15-18 in Bishkek.

### **Community Outreach**

- On February 8, N. Musuralieva conducted a consultative meeting with leaders of the target communities to discuss issues of financial accountability and provide consultations to ensure their financial skills.
- On February 26, TL conducted PCA on networking in the target community of Jon-Aryk. PCA resulted in identifying intention and sufficient capacity of local communities to form a network in order to be able to scale-community activities.

- TL provided assistance in registration to the target communities of Yntymak and Kairat. As a result, the Yntymak community was registered as *public foundation Lady Shirin Adept*, and the application for registration of the Kairat community submitted to the Ministry of Justice.

### Table Of Services

Indicator	BS	BT	JA	KB	KE	KN	KR	NO	NR	OS	TL
Number of Visitors	68	221	253	279	236	180	222	488	368	287	314
Number of New Visitors	22	41	65	65	49	49	85	247	87	43	61
Number of Visits	89	221	317	615	632	254	259	1,178	580	408	598
Number of NGO receiving services	60	60	135	97	76	32	120	111	153	229	74
Number of CBO, initiative groups receiving services	5	44	34	12	122	20	47	77	9	27	65
Number of volunteers recruited for NGO	0	14	1	15	0	3	61	33	5	24	0
Number of Training Workshops	3	4	23	4	5	3	7	9	4	7	4
Number of Consultations	54	130	139	150	222	155	207	92	160	97	401
Number of Times of Computer/Internet/E-mail Was Used	23	54	34	198	135	37	1,105	41	94	89	603
Number of Times Copy Machine/Printer Was Used	12	145	198	308	147	67	29	35	146	159	586
Number of Copies (for Copy Machine and Printer)	2,043	1,298	3,397	4,150	4,884	2,146	1,205	382	3,709	1,452	12,083
Number of Times Phone/Fax Was Used	4	50	28	45	13	24	26	45	42	11	1,025
Number of PCAs Conducted	2	2	1	1	0	2	4	5	1	1	6
Number of CAPs Developed	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

## Tajikistan

### 1. Dushanbe CSSC/The Third Sector

#### Activity Overview

Due to extension of the Program Phase III, the Dushanbe Center has designed Working Plan and budget for the next three months and submitted them to the Hub Office. As one of the primary goals of the Phase III Program for the remaining period is monitoring and evaluation of the projects funded by Counterpart, in January Nasbisher Juraev, Hub Office Monitoring and Evaluation Coordinator conducted consultation/session on involving all Center's staff in project monitoring to improve their professional skills and interchangeability.

- 14 monitoring and 2 final evaluations of community support grants and NGO support grants have been conducted.
- In February, the Dushanbe Center conducted TOT on Adult Learning Styles by the order of NSIFT (National Association of Social Investment Fund), where four DCSSC members participated jointly with NSIFT employees. Thus, Dushanbe Center has prepared new trainers for itself from its employees. The Center also conducted 2 fee-based training on PCA in Kurghon-Teppa and Dushanbe Cities for NSIFT employees.

- Dushanbe Center has signed a contract with Counterpart International “Women Empowerment and their Socioeconomic Development” Project on conducting a series of training workshops for the project target group at Karateginskaya Settlement in Dushanbe. These trainings will include the following topics: NGO and Community, Project design, Fundraising, and Team Building.
- The Center employees have discussed the Grant Program “Healthy Communities”, learned all documents, designed budget for the first cycle and submitted it to Hub Office Health Coordinator. After announcement of the Program in mass media, the Center will provide all interested NGOs and CBOs with the information on the program, all necessary documents and consultations.
- The Dushanbe Center has conducted a survey among its clients to identify their needs and assess the quality of services provided by the Center. Based on the results of the questionnaire, one can say that quality of services has been improved and the services are in demand.

### **Internal Capacity Building**

- In March, the Dushanbe Center took the following actions towards its sustainability:
  - Got registered in Tax Committee as an independent entity and received tax identification number
  - Obtained CSSC stamp and “Third Sector” letterhead;
  - Opened a bank account in the State Saving Bank
- At the beginning of the month, the Center’s Action Plan was reconsidered, amendments were made and it was sent to the Hub Office.
- At the request of the DCSSC employees Zaro Kurbanbekova, the Hub Organizational Development Coordinator conducted an OD session with them. They determined the organization’s strategy for the future as developing their organization as an independent NGO.
- The Dushanbe CSSC jointly with *Maniza* and *Parvin* NGOs submitted a coalition project on volunteer development *Preparing Volunteers for Working in Local and International NGOs* to Norwegian Refugee Counsel, which was approved. The project is aimed to prepare young people for voluntary work through specially designed training program. A group of 20 people was identified in the frame of the project to be trained as volunteers. The following trainings have been conducted for volunteers during the quarter:
  - NGO and Community,
  - Who are the Volunteers,
  - Bases of Business Communication.
- To improve professional skills of the employees, the Dushanbe CSSC submitted its application for participation in INTRAC Training Program for NGO support organizations that will be held in April.

### **Community Outreach**

- In February, the Dushanbe CSSC conducted a Social Partnership follow-up Meeting for the Direct Rule Districts in Tursunzade. A special working group was established to organize and conduct this event. This meeting was held based on the recommendations of the National Conference on Social Partnership in June 2002 in Dushanbe, where the President participated. Ninety representatives of NGOs, Government structures, entrepreneurship and mass media attended the meeting. The leadership of all DRS also took part in the meeting as well. As a result of this event, the participants made their recommendations for improving an interaction among the sectors of the society, especially between NGOs and Government.
- At present, the next Social Partnership follow-up Meeting for Dushanbe City to be held in April 12, is in preparation. In March, the Dushanbe CSSC initiated *NGO and Social Partnership Development* Round Table discussion with participation of the representatives of City Hukumat, NGOs, International Organizations, and mass media. The CSSC and the Working Group presented to the participants a draft program of the upcoming meeting. They also discussed candidates for making a presentation from the NGO sector.
- In March, the Dushanbe CSSC conducted a round table titled *Perspectives of Volunteer Movement in Tajikistan* with the leaders of NGOs, who have experience in working with volunteers as well as volunteers trained by both Dushanbe CSSC and Norwegian Refugee

Counsel Training Center. The participants shared their opinion and experiences on volunteer initiatives and discussed the challenges and obstacles that prevent volunteer movement in Tajikistan. The roundtable resulted in developing a number of recommendations on volunteer development that was then spread among NGOs.

## **2. Khujand CSSC/*Consortium of Initiatives***

### **Activity Overview**

- During a quarter, the Khujand Center conducted two training workshops on Advanced Fundraising and Participatory Monitoring and Evaluation.
- Due to the Phase III Program extension, Khujand Center has designed a working plan and budget for the next three months and submitted it to the Hub Office.
- The activity of the project *Assistance to Afghan Refugees* funded by UNHCR is being implemented in different directions. 23 beneficiaries have been provided with medicines, 3 Afghan refugees got treatment in the hospitals. 12 refugees, including 1 lonely elderly man, two women, who are the heads of families and 9 sick refugees were provided with allowances. Hair stylist training was conducted for 15 Afghan refugee women and girls. Preparations for drawing competition among children of Afghan refugees, who are pupils of Khujand City Schools is being carried out. The competition is dedicated to the World Day of Refugees that will be celebrated in June 20.
- The Khujand Center started implementation of *Healthy Communities* program. Responsibilities under this program were allocated among the Center's program staff. The Center's Program Coordinator is responsible for the general coordination of the Center's activity in the frame of this project. At present, the Center is providing NGOs and CBOs with information about the program and distributing grant requirements and forms to interested organizations.
- In February, the Khujand Center conducted a meeting with the contract trainers to present the trainer certification concept. All the trainers expressed their willingness to participate in certification. The issues of revising some training modules, developing trainers qualifications, and the quality of training reports were also discussed at the meeting.

### **Internal Capacity Building**

- The Center's Program Coordinator attended three day workshop on PR for Communication Department Employees organized by "*Development*" Media-Resource Center that is functioning under the NGO *Fourth Power*.
- The Khujand Center provided the National Democratic Institute (NDI) with services to establish its representation in Khujand. In particular, the Center helped this organization disseminate their job announcement and conduct the interview for the position of the Program Assistant for the NDI oblast Office.
- From March 5 to 26, the CSSC Accountant/Grant Manager attended short-term courses on Financial Reporting International Standards conducted by PRAGMA Corporation.

### **Community Outreach**

- In the frame of Volunteer Development Training Program initiated by the Center, from March 12-31 the Khujand Center conducted 14 training workshops for two groups of volunteers, 20 people each on such topics as "NGO and Community", "Volunteer Development", "Problem Identification", "NGO Management", "Project Design", "Fundraising" and "Conflict Resolution". All 7 modules were adapted for volunteer audience.
- This quarter the Center hired two new volunteers. At the same time, one former Center volunteer, Dilfuza Norkulova got the employment in *Center for Preparing Municipal Employees* in Khujand.

## **3. Kurghan–Teppa CSSC/*Fidokor***

### **Activity Overview**

- This quarter the Kurghan –Teppa CSSC conducted monitoring of 10 Community Action Grants and 2 NGO Support grants.

- In January the Kurghon Teppa CSSC conducted a 4-day training on Participatory Monitoring and Evaluation for target NGOs.
- In February, 2003 *Fidokor* became a member of the National Micro credit NGO Coalition. At present the Coalition members are reviewing the new Law on Micro credits.

### **Internal Capacity Building**

- Due to their success in implementing Community Mobilization in Khatlon project, *Fidokor* received another grant of \$ 30,000 from UNHCR in year 2003 to carry out similar activities in Jilikul and Kumsangir Districts with the particular focus of promoting the sustainability of communities. *Fidokor* received funds for overhead costs as well as financing to purchase computer equipment.
- This quarter the Kurghon-Teppa CSSC completed the renovation and moved to another building. The new office has big rooms and a big hall for training. Therefore, the Resource Center started its operation again. Construction of additional building was made at the expense of Counterpart institutional grant and funds of *Fidokor*.
- The CSSC employees are being trained and use services of the CSSC partner, IREX. E-mail addresses are established for 4 employees and 2 volunteers.

### **Community Outreach**

- After the Social Partnership Follow-up Meeting in Kurghon-Teppa in December, 02 some district leaders applied to *Fidokor* with a request to conduct training workshops on NGO for Hukumat employees at their expense. The last quarter the Center conducted trainings on “NGO and Community” and “ Social Partnership” for the employees of Khojamaston, Jilikul, Pyanj, Kumsangir and Gozimlik District Hukumats.
- The Center uninitiated a round table on Social Partnership, which resulted in establishing a Public Counsel on Social Partnership. The Public Counsel consists of 11 people, representatives of all civil society sectors. The members of the Counsel elected the City Chairman and *Fidokor* Director as Counsel’s Co-chairmen.
- The Kurghon-Teppa CSSC assisted the Initiative Group of Vakhsh district Mardatsoi and Lenin communities in establishing a community network between the communities of Kirov Jamoat and provided with consultations to develop a project proposal for construction of the road that runs between those communities. The project proposal then was submitted to the World Bank’ Innovative Ideas Program. The project has passed the first round. The Initiative Group is developing the project proposal for the next round.

## **4. Khorog CSSC/*Kalam***

### **Activity Overview**

- In March the Khorog CSSC purchased a new office at the expense of Counterpart institutional grant and partially through its own funds and with the assistance of the local government. In past the Center rented a house, which did not meet office and clients requirements. Now according to the agreement between the Center and Aga-Khan Foundation’s Mountain Societies Development Support Program (MSDSP), MSDSP will assist Center with repairing the new building.
- The Center conducted 2 trainings on “Volunteer Development” and “NGO Management” during the quarter. In addition, *Kalam* conducted a series of workshops on Conflict Resolution for its target communities in Khorog under the project City under Gunpowder funded by Democracy Fund.
- With the consultation of Counterpart Health Coordinator, the Khorog Center has designed operational plan for implementing the new grant program.

### **Internal Capacity Building**

- Five Center’s members attended TOT on Adult Learning Styles conducted by NGO *Jahon* from Dushanbe.
- The Center obtained new publications and brochures on NGO and human rights through their Russian partners *Siberia Public Initiatives Support Center* and *International Confederacy of Journalistic Unions*.

### **Community Outreach**

- The Center conducted monitoring and evaluation of *Dashti Poyon, Chorbog, Noshinbog, Tusien and Hamzadasht* Community Action Grants and *Vahdat* NGO Support Grant.
- The Khorog CSSC and National Social Investment Fund (NSIFT) Khorog Office agreed that Khorog Center would conduct training workshops on Business Plan Developing and Project Design for poorest communities of GBAO Murgab, Roshtkala and Rushan Districts. In January, the Khorog Center conducted a survey among communities in above-mentioned districts to identify poverty level in those communities.

## **5. Kulob CSSC/Shahrvand**

### **Activity Overview**

- The Kulob Center conducted a training workshop on Project Design for the leaders of community projects initiative groups. The training was organized at the request of the IGs. 16 people attended the training.
- The Center conducted training on “NGO and Community” for Farkhar District Hukumat employees at the request of the leadership of Farkhar District. The idea of such training for the District Hukumat employees arose during the Follow-up Social Partnership Meeting in Kurghon-Teppa for Khatlon oblast in December 2002.
- Training for a new volunteers group on “NGO and Community” and “Project Design” was conducted.
- The Center published two issues of its Informational Bulletin *Shahrvand*, which were disseminated among NGOs and other Center’s clients.
- *Shahrvand* has organized a 5-day training for MSDSP employees on “Facilitation Skills with the Elements of PRA”.
- The Center organized jointly with WFP Women NGO Fair dedicated to the International Women’s Day.
- The Center arranged a meeting of local NGOs with the representative of Soros Foundation.

### **Internal Capacity Building**

- A meeting of the members of organization was held this quarter, where the issues of organizational development were considered. The Center’s members revised their Organizational Development Strategic Plan and accordingly made changes in the Center’s action plan.
- The Center hired an accountant. In the past this position was combined with the Grant Manager and the Monitoring and Evaluation Coordinator positions.

### **Community Outreach**

- The Center conducted monitoring of nine Community Action Grants. Monitoring showed that in general the grants were carried out in accordance to the work plans.
- In the meeting with Kulob District Hukumat’s Head of Relations with Public Organizations it was agreed to establish a joint monitoring group to conduct monitoring on community action grants.

### **Table Of Services**

<b>Service</b>	<b>Dushanbe CSSC</b>	<b>Khujand CSSC</b>	<b>Khorog CSSC</b>	<b>Kurghon- Teppa CSSC</b>	<b>Kulob CSSC</b>
Number of Visitors	460	524	207	163	107
Number of Visits	712	571	524	178	213

Number of NGOs Receiving Services	336	102	55	55	55
Number of CBOs, Initiative Groups Receiving Services	62	31	16	21	28
Number of Volunteers Recruited for NGOs	12	0	1	0	1
Number of Trainings	14	2	2	6	3
Number of Consultations	313	288	151	60	108
Number of Times of Computer/Internet/E-mail Was Used	111	26	32	39	54
Number of Times Copy Machine/Printer Was Used	124	106	108	47	58
Number of Copies (for Copy Machine and Printer)	1461	1467	394	200	4621
Number of Times Phone/Fax Was Used	22	151	15	69	29
Number of PCAs Conducted	9	0	1	1	2
Number of CAPs Developed	0	2	0	0	0

## Turkmenistan

### 1. Ashgabat CSSC

#### Activity Overview

- The Center conducted three Information Clubs. There were 106 participants from different NGOs, initiative groups and international organizations including World Bank, Eurasia, Zdrav-Plus, and USAID.
- The Center conducted Round Table «Joint efforts of governmental and public organizations to develop local initiatives». The representatives of the state structures; public organizations and community IG have exchanged work experience on CAG projects and discussed the importance of social partnership in solving local problems. The Social Partnership Coordination Group including 6 people from NGO, IG and state organizations established.
- Conducted 6 monitoring visits to the current CAG projects.
- Conducted evaluations of 10 completed CAG projects.
- The Center provide assistance in organizing meeting with Representative of “Milieu Contacts” Kanysh Nurymgereyev and NGOs to present “Milieu Contacts” activities in Central Asia for ecological NGOs and initiative groups.
- The meeting with farmers and young people in the Nov-Ata village from Geok- Tepe etrap conducted to present activities of Ashgabat CSSC.
- Ashgabat CSSC Manager took part in the Feasibility assessment of community network development in the Akhal velayat carried out by hub office.
- Ashgabat CSSC provided space and support in organizing the meeting of the ecological NGO representatives.
- Newsletter “Together” of Ashgabat CSSC was published on a monthly base.

#### Internal Capacity Building

- The Regional Program CO Coordinator Raushan Amanzjanova on implementation of CO program consulted Ashgabat CSSC staff.
- The Center provided program orientation advises for a new employee of Lebab CSSC.
- Maxim Atamuradov (Technical Assistant of the Center) worked in Lebab CSSC as acting manager for one week.
- Manager of the Center participated in seminar “Gender education”, organized by EdNet.
- The Center echnical Assistant Maxim Atamuradov participated in training “Constructive Negotiations” conducted by Start/AED project.
- The Center’s manager participated in training “Membership Development” conducted by Regional office.

- On January, the Center's manager took participation on Regional Training meeting in Almaty.
- The Center's staff, Program Assistant and Technical Assistant, has participated in the Counterpart training "PCA", "Fundraising" and "Project Design".
- The Center's volunteers participated in the following trainings: "NGO & Community", "Social Partnership", "NGO Development", "Project Design, "Facilitation Skills Development" and "Basic skills of Personal Computer Use".
- The Center organized training for 25 volunteers "Small Business Market Economy" and Basic skills of Journalism" which was conducted with staff together with local NGO.
- Nine English Clubs carried out for volunteers with participation of Peace Corps volunteers and Stephanie Tansey, Ashgabat Expat Community member.
- The Center conducted interviews with 14 candidates for volunteer position of the Center. New contracts were signed.
- On February 18, manager of the Ashgabat CSSC took part in a presentation conducted by IRC specialist Azat Muradov on IRC resources, services and networking opportunities.
- UN library presented some books and materials for the Center's library. Volunteers of Ashgabat CSSC helped to carry out inventory of library and video resources.
- Contract trainers monthly meeting was held on a regularly basis.

## **2. Dashoguz CSSC**

### **Activity Overview**

- Discussion Clubs were conducted three times.
- The Center provided assistance to World Bank in Turkmenistan conduct a meeting for NGOs, governmental and business organizations of Dashoguz velayet to present two Grant programs of World Bank for Turkmenistan and assisted for 5 Initiative groups and NGOs to apply for World Bank grants.
- On 25-th of February, 2003 Central Asia Mission Head of USAID – George Deykon, and local USAID representatives Bradford Camp and Gulnara Hydyrova visited Dashoguz CSSC. The Round Table with participation of local NGOs conducted to discuss the issues of current situation related to the NGO activities, relation with government structures and optimization of USAID and Counterpart activity targeted to Civil Society development.
- There was provided assistance to NGO "Sarygamysh" in organizing Round Table to strengthen the Social Partnership between stakeholders participated in implementation of 2 CAGs in Turkmenbashi region. The concrete action plan developed with contributions from each partners.
- On February 18, Batyr Rahimov (IT coordinator, Hub Office) conducted the round table on "The issues in using the Internet access from the server of Dashoguz CSSC".
- In this quarter regular volunteers of Dashoguz CSSC spent a 2823 hours to help NGOs and Initiative Groups, searching of information in Internet, the work on computers, translations, working and managing of library resources etc.
- Volunteer team of the Center is organized German classes for 60 students.
- In March 5<sup>th</sup>, there was organized meeting with Stephanie Tansey, Ashgabat Expat Community member, and NGOs "IKAR", "DEC", Volunteers of Dashoguz CSSC.
- Three Newsletters of Dashoguz CSSC issued.
- Dashoguz CSSC provided space, logistic and technical assistance for two NGOs "Civic Dignity" and "Union of Entrepreneurs of Turkmenistan" to hold their seminars.
- It was opened the e-mail account for NGO "Chagalyk Dessessy" [chdessessy@tashauz.cpart.asb.tm](mailto:chdessessy@tashauz.cpart.asb.tm).

### **Internal Capacity Building**

- Performance Appraisals for Center staff was carried out.
- During this quarter 12 volunteers participated on the training "Fundraising", "Basic knowledge of computer use", "NGO and community", "Coalition Building".
- Volunteers of Dashoguz CSSC participated in 2 training on civic education topics conducted by NGO "Civic Dignity".

- Manager and assistant of the Center participated on the evaluation process of completed CAG projects.
- On February 5-6 the staff of the Center have participated in the quarterly CO meeting in the Ashgabat Hub office.
- Assistant of the Center trained in use of Quick Book (cash control software) to prepare financial reports.
- Natalia Londareva (technical assistant) participated in the training “Fundraising” and PCA.
- Several articles about NGO and community activities published in local newspaper.
- On March this Center prepared the work plan to strengthen current level of service during next three months.
- There was installed a third line and modem for external connection to the Center’s server.

### **3. Lebap CSSC**

#### **Activity Overview**

- Three meetings “Slet” in cooperation with local NGOs and initiative groups were conducted.
- Lebap CSSC organized the round table on “Legislative aspects for Turkmenistan NGOs” in cooperation with the representative of ICNL Elena Vasilyeva for 35 representatives of Lebap NGOs.
- The round table on “The technical mistakes and the rules of using the Internet from the server of LCSSC” carried out by Informational Technology Coordinator of hub office.
- The meeting with NGOs organized to present a new “Healthy communities” project of Counterpart Turkmenistan and ZdravPlus.
- On January 15, 2003 Lebap CSSC staff met with Paul Heisence, Winrock International. During this meeting discussed the opportunities of the partnership of Winrock and Lebap CSSC .
- On January-March 2003 there were conducted 2 CAG monitoring visits to villages Bash Saka, and Lebap.
- On January 18, Lebap CSSC organized the presentation of the World Bank Small Grants program for Lebap NGOs and initiative groups.
- On March 13, 2003 the Manager and the Program Coordinator of the Lebap CSSC had the meeting with the third secretary of British Embassy Jastin Teid.
- The volunteers of Lebap CSSC prepared and conducted the concert program for the orphans’ home children of Turkmenabat.
- On regularly basis volunteers provided the following types of services: coping, using computer and Internet resources, translations of texts and proposals, logistics for the trainings and meetings, video shooting.
- In partnership with Peace Corps volunteers Lebap CSSC carried out “Conversation Club” for youth of the city.

#### **Internal Capacity Building**

- The OD Action Plan was updated.
- On March 13, 2003 the third new program staff member was hired, coached and orientated in hub office on job related issue – work with volunteers, finances and CT server.
- New employer was consulted by Financial Manager of hub office in finance and reporting issues and trained to use Quick Book.
- During reporting period Lebap CSSC worked on improving of human resource management, planning, and delegation of responsibilities. “Milieu Contacts” The issue of conflict of interests solved and Volunteers Center “Bridge”. The process of planning were improved through conducting staff meeting, providing feed backs on reports and plans, updating of job descriptions,.
- Manager of Lebap CSSC was consulted by the Director in development of agenda for trips, problem identification and its solving.
- On February 11, was conducted staff meeting with participation of Hub office Director Yazgylych Charyev and Advisor Owen Goldfarb. The issues of the analyses of the results of OD plan implementation, performance of program objectives discussed.

- On February 5-6, 2003 staff of the Lebap CSSC participated in the quarterly CO meeting in the Ashgabat Hub office, where the staff could take the consultations on implementing the CO program.
- On March 31, staff of Lebap CSSC participated in the Network meeting in the Ashgabat.
- On March 31, 2003 the Manager of the Lebap CSSC with Managers of Akhal and Dashoguz CSSCs participated in the preparation for the staff retreat for all staff members of Counterpart Turkmenistan.
- On March, 2003 the manager and the program coordinator of the Lebap CSSC developed the performance, spending plans of the Lebap CSSC activities on the future extension period: April – May – June, 2003 in cooperation with the Hub office.

### Table Of Services

Service	Ashgabat CSSC	Lebap CSSC	Dashoguz CSSC
Number of visitors	475	204	253
Number of visits	954	471	820
Number of NGOs receiving services	199	107	29
Number of CBOs, initiative groups receiving services	80	13	5
Number of volunteers recruited for NGOs	15	27	3
Number of trainings	7	4	6
Number of consultations	382	31	107
Number of Computer/Internet/E-mail users	447	187	125
Number of times copy machine was used	427	459	91
Number of copies	3787	4344	426
Number of times Phone/Fax was used	56	23	90
Number of PCAs conducted	0	0	0
Number of CAPs developed	0	0	4(after completion of CAGs)

## Uzbekistan

### Activity Overview Common for all CSSCs

- Professional Development plans of the Network staff as well as contract trainers have continued to be implemented and updated.
- NGO Databases have been updated on the regular basis by each CSSC.

### 1. Tashkent Agency FACT (Partner)

#### Activity Overview

- In January, the CSSC Coordinator participated in the brainstorming session on the topic of *Using legal opportunities in the commercial activity of NGOs in Uzbekistan* organized by the NGO *Lotos* under the project granted by *Eurasia Foundation*.
- In January, the CSSC Coordinator rendered assistance to members of the *Youth Project on struggle against AIDS and drug addiction* in designing the training Module on *Public Relations*.
- In February, the CSSC Manager participated in the Round Table on *Economic activity of NGOs in Uzbekistan* organized by *ICNL* under the financial support of *AED/Uzbekistan*.
- During the quarter the CSSC Coordinator attended the following trainings with the purpose of monitoring: *TOT Methodology, Human Resource Management*.
- In February existing training modules were improved together with trainers from Training Center *Bilim va Jamiyat* up on the request of the Regional office

- In February, under the technical support of the CSSC and the Center *STATUS* Foundation *ALPA* conducted the Round Table on *Problem of inaccessibility of the existing public informational and educational resources to disabled people*. The CSSC Volunteer participated in this Round Table.
- In March the CSSC Coordinator participated in the work meeting under the Counterpart International *CASP* program. She facilitated the work of one of the groups.
- In March the CSSC Coordinator met with representatives of *Mercy Corps* and *IREX* to discuss some questions including the condition and level of NGO development in Uzbekistan. Information on the CSSCD activity and services provided was also presented.

### **Internal Capacity Building**

- At the beginning of January, 2003 Organizational Development Consultancy was conducted with the organization.
- In January, the e-mail list for interested NGOs in getting the latest news and another information was created.
- In January, on the base of the common NGO Database received by the CSSC from Counterpart advanced questionnaire for gathering the latest data on the NGOs working in the regions of Uzbekistan covered by CSSCs was prepared. As filled questionnaires received, they are put into the Database.
- In February, the CSSC established one additional computer with approval of Hub Office and 3 Resource Center's computers was upgraded.

### **Community Outreach**

- In February Community Network Development PCA was conducted in Akhangaranskiy rayon of Tashkent Oblast.
- The CSSC Volunteers participated in trainings according to their Personal Development Plans.

## **2. Kokand Civil Society Development Center (Partner)**

### **Activity Overview**

- In January the CSSC Coordinator visited two NGOs – Association of Women-Jurists and Oncological Center *Mekhrigiyo* with the purpose to consult these organization on Organizational Development.
- In February Kokand CSSC participated in the Conference under the Advocacy program organized by *ABA/CEELI* in Osh-city, Kyrgistan. More then 35 representatives of NGOs working in the field of rights protection in Kyrgizstan, Tadjikistan, Uzbekistan and Russia Federation participated at the Conference. During the Conference mini training on *Advocacy Campaign* was conducted. As the result of the Conference memorandum on cooperation was signed by the participants.
- Match 6, 2003 – the CSSC acting Manager visited the Oblast Department of Justice with the purpose to submit annual plan of the organization; discuss questions and suggestions made by NGOs and IGs at the NGO Club meeting; and discuss ways of cooperation.
- March 14, 2003 – the CSSC Coordinator met with the representatives of *Handicap International* with the purpose to present the CSSC activity and discuss ways of cooperation.
- March 19, 2003 – the CSSC Coordinator participated in the work meeting under the Counterpart International *CASP* Program. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the planned campaigns and compose the final structure of coalitions to realize those campaigns.

### **Internal Capacity Building**

- At the meeting of Fergana Oblast trainers conducted on January 2, 2003 SWOT Analysis of the training program was conducted. Recommendations on improvement of the program have been developed.
- At the beginning of January 3 new candidates for trainers have been selected.

### **Community Outreach**

- February 6-7, 2003 - Community Network Development PCA was conducted in Bagdadskiy rayon of Fergana Oblast.
- Advocacy campaign was conducted by Parent-and teachers Initiative group in the frames of the CAG project *Renewal of the infrastructure of schools and their adoption to the needs of disabled children* when local government decided to take a part of the school for the policlinics. Parents of disabled children jointly with other parents organized action of remonstrance against this decision contained pickets, collection of signatures to send in different official channels. As the result the decision was canceled.
- In January 2003 – social ad on the project *Creation of conditions to save the book fund* implemented by the *Association of Librarians* of Fergana Oblast was prepared and translated on the local TV.
- In February 2003 – social ad on social partnership under the project *Drinking water to Yangi Makhalla* implemented by the *Center Ayol va Zamon* of Bagdadskiy rayon of Fergana Oblast was prepared and translated on the local TV.
- January 17, 2003 – the first Volunteer Club meeting was conducted. Volunteers from different Kokand NGOs participated in the meeting. Questions discussed at the meeting included: necessity of the Club; vision and mission of the Club.

### **3. Nukus Civil Society Development Center (Partner)**

#### **Activity Overview**

- January 24, 2003 – the CSSC staff participated on the annual seminar under the program of Children Survival “*Omira Nuri*” by Counterpart International.
- January 6, 2003 – meeting with trainers was conducted in the CSSC. SWOT Analysis developed by the team of trainers was considered. Questions on creation the professional League of Trainers to develop training activity in the Republic of Karakalpakstan were discussed. The first meeting of the League of Trainers was conducted on January 10, 2003.
- January 11, 2003 – the CSSC Manager and one Coordinator participated on the monthly meeting of International organizations with the purpose of information exchange and finding ways of cooperation.
- January 31, 2003 – the next NGO Club meeting was conducted. Implemented by NGO *Gamkhorlik Concern* project was presented at the meeting with the purpose to show NGOs possible problems that can occur during project implementation and how to overcome them. *UNICEF* representative visited the meeting to present the idea on establishing permanent partnership with state structures and to discuss the project of creation of the Council consisting of NGOs and state structure representatives. Also, the new program of Counterpart and *ZdravPlus* was presented.
- February 21, 2003 – in the office of the CSSC the next meeting of International Organizations was conducted. For the organization *Gratuitous Aid to the Central Asia* two local NGOs were recommended to implement new programs of the organization. The CSSC provided all the organizations with NGO Database of Karakalpakstan.
- In February and March 2003 additional resources have been given to NGOs for usage: Video camera – 7 NGOs and photo camera – 4 NGOs.
- In February 2003 USAID representatives visited Nukus CSSC. Together with the CSSC Manager, she visited four community projects implemented in Karakalpakstan.

#### **Internal Capacity Building**

- In January 2003 Educational and Production Workshop of the *Society of Disabled People* passed TV and video-recorder to the CSSC.
- January 6, 2003 – CSSC Strategic Plan was revised. Based on the alterations made quarterly Work Plans of the CSSC staff has been developed.
- January 2003 – questionnaire for the clients of the Resource Center was developed and distributed among clients with the purpose to monitor and evaluate the work of the Resource Center.
- For the purpose of saving funds for communications and broadening opportunity of clients to use Internet and e-mail the CSSC changed Internet Provider in January 2003.

- February 3, 2003 – mini training on classification and usage of Monitoring and Evaluation instruments based on the materials of *INTRAC* was conducted for the CSSC staff and trainers.
- In February 2003 two projects have been developed and submitted. Project on creation the Press-Center in the organization was submitted to the contest of innovative projects. Another project, which is on opening two resource centers in two regions of Karakalpakstan, was submitted to the World Banks.
- In February the CSSC Coordinator participated in the training on Micro Crediting in the Training Center on *UNDP*.
- Since NGO Support Coordinator has been retired at the beginning of February 2003, the vacancy for the position was announced in the local newspaper. 21 resumes were collected. Responsibilities of the NGO Coordinator have been distributed among other staff members and CSSC Volunteers. In March 2003 interview with 5 applicants was conducted. Due to discrepancy of candidates to the criteria it was decided to continue distribute responsibilities among the staff and volunteers.
- To increase sustainability during the Quarter the CSSC provided conference hall and logistics for different events to International Organizations.
- In March 2003 questionnaire was developed to assess clients' needs in order to make adjustment into the work on providing services.

### **Community Outreach**

- February 7-8, 2003 - Community Network Development PCA was conducted in Kegeylinskiy rayon of Karakalpakstan.
- 3 CSSC Volunteers helped Agency *ITA FACT* in conducting Social Researches on finding out the level of the Civil Society Development in Uzbekistan conducted under the project funded by *INTRAC*.
- 1 CSSC Volunteer rendered assistance to IG "Arman" and NGO "Biypatpa" in typing and language correction of the project for the contest of innovative ideas.
- January 22, 2003 – the meeting of the CSSC Volunteers was conducted with the purpose to discuss creation of the Volunteer Center. Also, some responsibilities have been delegated to one of the Volunteers. Volunteers were offered to develop the system of the recruiting Volunteers as well as to revise questionnaire for Volunteers.

## **4. Bukhara Information and Cultural Center (Partner)**

### **Activity Overview**

- January 10, 2003 – the meeting of NGOs of Navoyi Oblast was conducted. 18 NGO and IG representatives participated in it. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss opportunity of conducting quarterly meetings of NGO to show NGO transparency and openness. It was decided to invite representatives of state and business structures and mass media in order to improve intra-sector interaction.
- January 14 and 24, 2003 – meeting with representatives of public foundations of Bukhara Oblast. It was conducted with the purpose to find out problems and difficulties in the activity of public foundations and to develop Action Plan. 8 representatives of public foundations as well as deputy head of Oblast Department of Justice participated in the meeting. As the result of the meeting main problems and difficulties as well as further steps on coordination of providing consultative and informational services for representatives of public foundations defined.
- February 7, 2003 – meeting with teachers of the school No.2 on the questions of critical thinking and using interactive methods during classes was conducted. 21 people participated in the meeting. At the end of the meeting problems and difficulties in national education and possible ways of their solution were discussed.
- February 7-8, 2003 – CSSC organized *ICNL* training on *Accounting and Taxation for NGOs* financed *AED/START*. 40 NGO representatives from 3 Oblasts – Bukhara, Navoyi and Kashkadarya – participated in the training.
- In February activity on publishing bulletin *Partnership* was renewed. January issue was published.

- March 17, 2003 – USAID representatives visited the organization.
- March 18, 2003 – the CSSC staff participated at the Round Table on *Effective governance, business practice* conducted by the US Ministry of Trade. Materials on effective governance have been received; questions of business ethics were discussed. Business structures and NGO representatives participated at the Round Table.
- March 20, 2003 – the CSSC Coordinator participated at the work meeting under the Counterpart International *CASP* program.
- Informational bulletin No.3 on *Social Partnership* was prepared to be issued in March 2003.

### **Internal Capacity Building**

- In January 2003 work on development of the standards and the quality of the services provided has begun.
- In January together with trainers topics of the Module of the training on *Strategic Planning* have been revised
- During February 2003 the analysis of the topics of consultations provided to NGOs was made. This analysis allows make corrections into the service of providing group consultations for NGOs. Such topics as social partnership, entrepreneurship of NGOs and others will be innovated.
- In the beginning of March 2003 premises for the Resource Center was purchased. The work on preparation of the building to the operation is conducted. This premises will allow have 2 guest-rooms, 3 office-rooms what will increase the potential of the organization and broaden services provided to clients. Repair works are going on at the moment.
- During the Quarter the organization provided paid services such as logistics for International Organizations; provision of the guest room.
- March 6, 2003 – meeting with CSSC trainers was conducted with the purpose to discuss main questions on certification and the CSSC future plans.

### **Community Outreach**

- February 4-6, 2003 - Community Network Development PCA was conducted in Gidjuvanskiy rayon of Bukhara Oblast.
- In March 2003 coalition consisting of state and business structures as well as 7 NGOs unified to solve problems in tourism infrastructure was created.

## **5. International Scientific Society *Al Khorezmi* - Vambery, Urgench (Partner)**

### **Activity Overview**

- January 9, 2003 – the CSSC Manager met with the new Khokim of Urgench-city. Question of NGO activity in Khorezm Oblast, projects implemented and current ones, as well as how do NGOs work in Makhallas on problem solving were discussed.
- January 10, 2003 – the CSSC Manager and Coordinator participated on the meeting conducted by Khokimiyat of Urgench-city where a number of NGOs participated. The idea of creation of NGOs, their activity on solving community problems, necessity for establishing social partnership with state and business structures was discussed.
- January 29, 2003 – the CSSC conducted Round Table on *Social Partnership of 3 sectors when solving Makhalla problems*. The Round Table was conducted in the premises of Khokimiyat of Khivinskiy rayon. Along with NGOs and IGs implemented Counterpart's projects other NGOs and IGs, Khokimiyat representatives, heads of Makhalla Committees and business structures participated at the Round Table. CSSC representatives gave explanation of the 3-d sector and Social Partnership based on real examples. Counterpart's grantees told about their projects and success stories. Also, results and success of Makhalla Initiative and Phase III programs were presented.
- February 24 and March 4, 2003 – the CSSC Coordinators participated in the meeting organized by the organization *Medecines San Frontiers (MSF)*. Representatives of *MSF, Institute of Health, Red Cross and Red Crescent Foundations* participated in the meeting. Questions of cooperative work in the future, namely conduction of events devoted to the International Day against

Tuberculosis have been discussed. Also, questions on project design were discussed. The CSSC is to organize the meeting for representatives of the above organizations with NGOs.

- March 19, 2003 – the CSSC Manager participated at the work meeting under the Counterpart International CASP Program. As well two CSSC trainers participated at the meeting as facilitators.
- March 3, 2003 – the representative of the Republican Center *Uzbekistan XXI Century* visited the CSSC. Questions of conduction some of the trainings and the further cooperation have been discussed at the meeting.]
- March 19, 2003 – the CSSC Manager participated at the work meeting under Counterpart International CASP program.

### **Internal Capacity Building**

- The contract with the new trainer, Salomat Yakubova, was signed in January 2003. For now Urgench team of trainers consists of 6 trainers.
- In January 2003 the organization revised the project to *Eurasia Foundation* according to the comments and submitted it. Also, the staff developed the concept of the project to participate in the Central Asian contest of innovative ideas. The project proposal to the *World Bank* is in the process of its development.

### **Community Outreach**

- February 7, 2003 - Community Network Development PCA was conducted in Khivinskiy rayon of Khorezm Oblast.

## **6. Samarkand Civil Initiative Support Center (Partner)**

### **Activity Overview**

- January 13, 2003 – under the initiative of USAID the Round Table devoted to the problem of traffic of women was organized in the CSSC. USAID representatives from Tashkent, the CSSC Manager and heads of 10 Samarkand and Djizak-city NGOs participated in the meeting. On February 9, 2003 the CSSC organized meeting of women NGOs of Samarkand Oblast with USAID representatives concerning the same question.
- January 24, 2003 – the next Samarkand Oblast NGO Club meeting was conducted. 34 NGO and IG representatives as well as one representative of the Oblast Khokimiyat participated in the meeting. The CSSC Manager presented results of her visit to the USA. Information on the new grant program by Counterpart and *ZdravPlus* was given to NGOs. The proposal of the Law *about warranties of the state support to the NGO activity* was discussed. On this question it was decided to gather the comments and organize the Round Table for the purpose of developing the common vision and preparing suggestions t the *Oliy Majlis* of the Republic Uzbekistan. It was conducted on February 3, 2003.
- March 28, 2003 – the CSSC conducted the first meeting on the creation of the coalition *Protection and promotion of the youth interest in the field of education on reproductive health, STDS, AIV/AIDS and drug addiction*. It devoted to all the interested people of Samarkand Oblast. This meeting was initiated by the Samarkand Oblast Center *Ayol, Resource for women and family* and *Public Initiative Support Center (CSSC)*.
- March 19, 2003 – the CSSC Manager participated at the work meeting under Counterpart International CASP program.

### **Internal Capacity Building**

- January 2003 – with the help of the Hub-office Coordinator Work Plan for Volunteers was developed and included into the CSSC Action Plan.
- January 21-22, 2003 – CSSC NGO Coordinator participated in the training *Accounting and Taxation of NGO* organized by *START/AED*.
- January 16, 2003 – on the meeting of the CSSC staff and CSSC trainers organization's Strategic Plan was discussed and updated. Also, questions on Consultative Council of the organization, developing ideas, submission of the success stories, and other questions were discussed.

- In February 2003 the agreement on purchasing additional premises adjacent with the existing was achieved.
- During the quarter CSSC provide paid services such as rent of premises for conduction of Round Tables.

### Community Outreach

- February 7-8, 2003 – Community Network Development PCA was conducted in Taylyakskiy and Urgutskiy rayons of Samarkand Oblast.

PCAs conducted with the help of CSSC are\* :

Organizer	Community
NGO “Psychological school named after May Dukarevich”	Makhalla “Ilkhom” of Temiryulskiy rayon of Samarkand-city

- 1 CSSC Volunteer participated as interviewer in conduction of the Social Researches conducted by Agency *ITA FACT*.
- 2 CSSC Volunteers typed brochure *Innovative methods in the Education* for NGO *Psychological school named after Maya Dukarevich*.
- February 20, 2003 – meeting of the CSSC Volunteers was conducted. The following questions were considered: expectations and needs of Volunteers, their responsibilities, formalization of the relations with Volunteers and discussion of the schedule of their work. As the result of the meeting 7 contracts on unpaid Volunteer activity were signed.
- In March 2003 the contract with a new Volunteer was signed. Schedule of Volunteers’ activity in the CSSC was developed and introduced.
- One CSSC Volunteer has begun a work on developing the web-site of the organization.

During the meeting of Hub-office CO Coordinator with Samarkand CSSC Coordinator present work with volunteers was revised due to the challenges found out during the last OF Consultancy. As the result of the work and based on recommendations given by Hub-office Coordinator CSSC developed Action Plan on work with Volunteers.

## 7. Namangan Civil Society Support Center, (Partner)

### Activity Overview

- January 11, 2003 – the next NGO/IG Club meeting was conducted in the CSSC. 24 NGO and IG representatives participated in the meeting. The agenda included introducing the further events to be conducted, in particular NGO Fair. Participants made suggestions on the Fair. Another topic was introduction the activity of the *INTRAC* made by organization representative. Also, the announcement on charity action to be conducted by the CSSC Volunteers in cooperation with Volunteers of *Red Crescent* organization was made. Questionnaires on the structure and content of the NGO Club the Club members have been distributed.
- January 28, 2003 – meeting of the members of the NGO and IG Club Board and Revision Committee was conducted. It was decided upon necessity of the Club registration. Also, preliminary list of the potential grantors for the conduction of the charity action *Give children a joy*.
- January 18, 19, 2003 – adopted trainings on *NGO and Community* for Makhalla Committees were conducted in Andijan (January 18, 2003) and Namangan (January 19, 2003). In Andijan heads of 23 Makhalla Committees of Andijan-city, representatives of Foundation *Makhalla* as well as 7 NGO representatives participated in the training. City Department of the Foundation *Makhalla* organized people for the training and Oblast Department of Foundation *Makhalla* took the responsibility for organization of the lunch and premises. In Namangan heads of 16 Makhalla

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\* PCAs are conducted and CAPs are developed for Phase III and Makhalla Initiative Programs

Committees of Namangan-city, Foundation *Makhalla* representatives, Oblast Khokimiyat representative as well as 7 NGO representatives participated in the training.

- In January 2003 – the CSSC Coordinator met representatives from the following international organizations working in Andijan-city: *ACD/VOCA*, *CAFÉ* and *Mercy Corps*. The purpose of the meetings was to get acquainted with the activity of these organizations, present of the CSSC activity and establish contacts for possible partnership.
- March 19, 2003 – the CSSC Manager participated at the work meeting under Counterpart International *CASP* program.

### Internal Capacity Building

- In March 2003 CSSC provided paid service to the *ABA/CEELI* of Fergana-city in organization of the training on *Organizational Development for student organizations*.

### Community Outreach

- February 8-9, 2003 – Community Network development PCA was conducted in Chartak-city of Namangan Oblast.

PCAs conducted with the help of CSSC are\*:

Organizer	Community
NGO “Shabnam”	Makhalla “Kurik” of Yangikurganskiy rayon of Namangan Oblast.
IG “Kamol”	Boarding school for children sick with anemia of Andijan Oblast.
IG “Mamay”	Village “Mamay” of Yangikurganskiy rayon of Namangan Oblast
NGO “Marvarid”	Makhalla named after Rakhmonov of Kurgantepinskiy rayon of Andijan Oblast
NGO “Buston”	Makhalla “Buston” of Andijan-city

- CAPs developed are:
  - March 26, 2003 – Makhalla “Kurik” of Yangikurganskiy rayon of Namangan Oblast. Initiator – NGO “Shabnam”. 8 people participated. The problem was lack of clean drinking water in the Makhalla. The solution suggested was to repair two bore-holes and connecting them to the water supply line.
  - March 26, 2003 - Boarding school for children sick with anemia of Andijan Oblast. Initiator – IG “Kamol”. 12 people participated. The problem was lack of sports place and equipment in the school. The solution suggested was to organize sports-city at the territory of the school.
  - March 24, 2003 - Makhalla named after Rakhmonov of Kurgantepinskiy rayon of Andijan Oblas. Initiator - NGO “Marvarid”. 17 people participated. The problem was lack of drinking water. The solution suggested was to bore a hole in the Makhalla.
  - March 31, 2003 - Makhalla “Buston” of Andijan-city. Initiator - NGO “Buston”. 11 people participated. The problem was lack of medical point. The solution suggested was to open such a point in the Makhalla.
- Beginning from January 2003 six CSSC Volunteers have been participated in the design of the project called *Vacancy* initiated by the Tourism Informational Center *Sayyokh*. As the project is approved these Volunteers are to work under it.
- January 2003 – under the initiative of the CSSC Volunteers joint work on preparation for the charity action *Give children a joy* for orphan and disabled children has begun in cooperation with the Volunteers of *Red Crescent*. On February 26, 2003 Volunteers of the two organizations met in order to discuss the program of the action, develop the budget. Other meeting were conducted on

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\* PCAs are conducted and CAPs are developed for Phase III and Makhalla Initiative Programs

March 13, 15 and 18, 2003. The Action was conducted on March 25, 2003. (see details in the *Coordination and Cooperation* part of the report).

- February 19, 2003 – meeting of the CSSC Volunteers took place. The purpose of the meeting was to update Database of Volunteers, discuss current activity of each CSSC Volunteer, rights and responsibilities. As the result list of rights and responsibilities of the CSSC Volunteers was composed.
- March 29, 2003 – meeting of CSSC Volunteers was conducted. 11 CSSC Volunteers participated in it. The results of the conducted before Charitable Action were discussed.
- In March 2003 4 new Volunteers have been attracted into the CSSC's team of Volunteers. At the moment a teams consists of 22 Volunteers.

### Table Of Services

Service	Kokand	Nukus	Bukhara	Urgench	Tashkent	Samar-kand	Naman-gan
Number of visitors	171	313	205	138	377	209	251
Number of new visitors	6	66	23	29	119	32	66
Number of visits	367	845	901	565	918	479	604
Number of NGOs receiving services	89	104	114	96	188	125	109
Number of CBOs, initiative groups receiving services	57	134	33	37	148	22	58
Number of volunteers recruited for NGOs	0	5	0	0	0	3	6
Number of trainings	4	4	2	4	9	5	8
Number of consultations	31	158	88	96	139	410	47
Number of Computer/Internet/E-mail was used	140	255	337	98	770	108	290
Number of times copy machine was used	225	230	351	178	918	151	403
Number of copies	2886	1440	3092	1779	16258	1561	5339
Number of times Phone/Fax was used	128	133	165	208	232	50	161
Number of PCAs conducted	0	0	0	0	0	1	6
Number of CAPs developed	0	0	0	0	0	0	4

## E. Focus/Target NGO Activity Overview

### Kazakhstan (Focus NGOs)

#### 1. *Confederation of Non-Governmental Organizations of Kazakhstan (CNOK)*

##### **Internal Capacity Building**

Being one of Counterpart's focus NGOs, the Confederation was able to raise its organizational capacity by 43,52%. For the reviewed period organizational dynamics reached 50% by assessment of CNOK personnel and 37,04% by assessment of Counterpart's consultants. The actual level of organizational & institutional development by 2003 is rated at 3,8 points (out of 4) compared to the figures of the first assessment (2,65 points). Dynamics of NGO Confederation of Kazakhstan is viewed to be one the highest and most stable among all partners of Counterpart Consortium.

#### 2. *National Consumers League of Kazakhstan (NCLK)*

##### **Internal Capacity Building**

The League improved its organizational capacity by 10,99%. The figures, summed up by the NGO staff, is 2,63%, and according to the CC consultants is 19,35%. The actual level of organizational & institutional development by 2003 is rated at 3,8 points (out of 4) compared to the figures of the first assessment (3,45 points). Thus, National Consumers League of Kazakhstan is viewed to be one the highest and most stable among all partners of Counterpart Consortium.

#### 3. *Diabetic Association of the Republic of Kazakhstan (DARK)*

##### **Internal Capacity Building**

The organizational development within Diabetic Association of Kazakhstan was increased by 35,90%. So, for the reviewed period organizational dynamics reached 38,46% by assessment of DARK personnel and 33,33% by assessment of CC consultants. As a result the organization has 3,6 points of its actual organizational development by 2003 (compared to 2,65 points summed up in the first assessment).

#### 4. *Young Leaders Association (YLA)*

##### **Internal Capacity Building**

Young Leaders Association improved its organizational capacity by 9,26%. OD growth is evaluated as 0,00% by the Association's staff, while Counterpart's consultants assessed by 18,52%. The level of actual organizational & institutional development comprised 2,9 points (compared to 2,65 points of the first evaluation).

### Kyrgyzstan (Focus NGOs)

#### 1. *Bishkek Center For Social Initiatives (BCSI), Bishkek*

##### **Activity Overview**

- This year, the visitation rate has increased for 60% (812 visitors currently against 500 in the previous year).
- BCSI has been working on establishing a network of NGOs and CBOs focusing on providing support to internal migrants residing in the new residential districts of Bishkek. A series of meetings with participation of NGOs and local governments to establish regular information exchange was conducted.
- BCSI distributed a letter of State Architect Inspection among self-governing committees of the residential districts with detailed explanations on procedures of registering housing ownership and fixed rates.
- The residents of the new district Ak-Tilek were assisted in solving problems associated with illegal slaughtering, which led to insanitation of this area. BCSI drew attention of the inspectors

of the City Department of Vet Services and Prosecutors Office, who assisted the residents in fighting cases of illegal slaughtering.

### **Internal Capacity Building**

- According the Capacity Building Action Plan, BCSI has revised its strategic plan and re-elected some of the members of the Board of Directors, updated regulations of the Board. The procedures of the staff performance appraisals are being developed. The membership of the organization has increased up to 52.
- The regulations on providing paid services have been developed and the BCSI staff continues introducing paid services- the second edition of the reference book on legal issues for the internal migrants was published, and 700 copies will be distributed among migrants residing in Bishkek, while 300 copies will be for sale.
- The annual report has been developed as well as the proposal on extending the project term for three month to continue providing services for internal migrants.
- BCSI received a Soros grant of \$3,000 to conduct ethno-demographical research in new residential areas of Bishkek, populated mostly with internal migrants.
- BCSI has been proactive in establishing partnership with governments: it has been developing coordination with Agency on Local Self-Government Development under the City Administration, Employment Services, Migration Department, and self-governing committees of the residential districts. The President of Kyrgyz Republic awarded the Diploma of Honour to the NGO Director Mrs. K. Rakisheva NGO for achievements in solving social problems.

## **2. Talas Oblast Farmers' Union (TOFU), Talas**

### **Activity Overview**

- The partnership with the *Talas Oblast Employment Department* is developing- it has been agreed to establish resource center for unemployed, which will be providing information on existing vacancies and re-training opportunities.
- Last four quarters, the TOFU office was visited by 2,309 farmers receiving consultation and information support, mostly in developing business plans and applying for external credits.
- On February 5, TOFU organized a meeting of organizations, providing services to farmers, where they decided to establish a veterinarian association. TOFU becomes one of the founders of this association.
- Updated information for farmers in the villages stands, which contains information on *Livestock, Agriculture, Legal Advices, and Source of credits* and edited 4 newsletters for farmers (22 in total).
- The TOFU staff conducted assessment among its clients to identify their needs in a special newspaper for farmers. It was revealed, that farmers do have interest in having such a newspaper, but can cover subscription costs only in in-kind.

### **Internal Capacity Building**

- The TOFU constituency has been developing- this quarter 149 new members joined the organization. According to the action plan, TOFU opened small information centers in three new villages. The annual report has been developed and published.
- A small funding proposal on conducting a conference for farmers on May 2003 was developed and submitted to Counterpart. The rationale is that TOFU has been revising its mission as the activities has constantly been growing, and to better respond to the needs of farmers, the decision on re-registering TOFU as Farmers Association was made. So the main goal of the planned conference is to revise the organizational structure, refine strategy and financial sustainability plan for TOFU with participation of wider groups of farmers.
- The TOFU staff continues introducing paid services- the members, who pay a membership fee of 180 soms a year, are being provided with 50% discount for copying and computer services as well as for consultations in business planning, while the other clients pay full rate. The procedures on providing paid services have been developed and approved.
- On January 22-24, the Director E. Sydykov took part in the regional training workshop Membership Development held in Almaty. The training module was adapted for delivering to the CSSCs.

### **3. Bayastan, Naryn**

#### **Activity Overview**

- The Bayastan psychologist conducted classes in 7 Naryn schools for 402 school students of 6-11 grades. The main themes covered by the psychologist include self-esteem, psychological hurdles, and basic child rights.
- In order to have broader outreach, Bayastan signed contacts with the administration of the schools outside of Naryn (villages of Kayndy, Ygyt and Kulanak). The classes in children's rights have been conducted in those schools also.
- The local authorities examined the impacts of the project on integrating disabled children in regular schools. It has been identified that this project provided good start to introducing the concept of inclusive education.

#### **Internal Capacity Building**

- Bayastan revised the regulations of its Consultative Board and developed internal regulations for the staff. Three committees were established within the Board- planning committee, fundraising committee and PR committee. The work plans for all committees were developed and approved.
- According the plan of financial sustainability, Bayastan developed a funding proposal aimed at providing training seminars to teachers on children's right in the schools of Naryn.
- Bayastan successfully develops collaboration with governments and NGOs, for instance, the NGO partners the Oblast Administration in implementing the State Program *New Generation*, the focus of joint activities for the moment is to develop standards in delivering classes on children's rights in the regular schools.
- The Kyrgyz Agricultural Corporation provided funding for the Bayastan project aimed at providing vocational training to disabled children. Currently, it has been implementing successfully, involving 10 disabled children in training in sewing, drawing, and modelling.

### **4. Chintamani, Tash-Komur Town, Jalalabad Oblast**

#### **Activity Overview**

- Three issues of the bulletins *Voice of the Nature* and *Eco-plus* were published (14 in total). The volunteers play a key role in collecting information materials for the bulletins and in disseminating them among local governments, NGOs and schools.
- The NGO regularly conducts debates (6 in total) with participation of youth leaders to develop dispute skills and tolerance of the members of initiative youth group under the NGO. The debates cover such topic as *Criticism, Human Factor, NGO Mission, Environmental Problems, Future of Our Town*, etc.
- On January 23, Chintamani trained 12 independent observers to monitor the Referendum on Constitutional Reform, who then were attached to individual polling stations and took an active part in monitoring the voting process.

#### **Internal Capacity Building**

- Chintamani revised the regulations of its Consultative Board and re-elected its members after conducting a series of individual meetings with potential members.
- A proposal for extending the terms of the project, aimed at publishing the newsletter *Voice of the Nature* and conducting seminars for students on ecology issues, was submitted to Counterpart.
- The strategic plan was revised as the organization decided to pay more attention to such components as advocacy and publishing activities. Providing support to newly established environmental organizations was also recognized as a focus.
- Chintamani became a member of the network of environmental NGOs of Kyrgyzstan along with such well-known NGOs as *Drevo Jizni, BIOM, Atat-Jurt, Beagle, Independent Environmental Inspection, Green Women*, etc. As a network member, Chintamai received a Soros funding to cover E-mail costs.
- The regulations on providing paid services have been developed and three funding proposals to international donors were drafted.

## Tajikistan (Target NGOs)

### 1. NGO *Saodat*

- Under the project *Umed* (Hope), supported by NOVIB/OXFAM Nederland, *Saodat* conducted trainings for 40 people of their target groups in Nay and Ghonchi Districts of Sughd Oblast on the following topics: Creating a Farmer Association, Agro Business, and Micro Credit.
- *Saodat* received grant from Canadian Fund to establish a Children Center for “risk group” children from vulnerable families
- The leader of the organization participated in the Central Asian conference on Mountain Farming conducted in Dushanbe by Canadian Fund.

### 2. *The Development Fund*

- In accordance with contract with Shelter for Life, *Development Fund* continued implementing a micro credit program in Gafurov and Rasulov Districts of Sughd Oblast. In March they signed an additional contract according to which *Development Fund* expanded the project to Khatlon Oblast. In total, 398 beneficiaries are involved in this program.
- Under a grant from Mercy Corps, *Development Fund* carries out a micro credit program in Ghonchi, Gafurov, Rasulov, Nay and Khujand Districts, targeting agriculture producers. 384 loans have been given so far.
- Within the project *Supporting Sustainable Mechanisms of Micro Financing in Rural Areas*
- *Development Fund* developed the following manuals for NGOs working on Micro Credit: *Training NGO Leaders and Accountants*, *Working on Micro Credit Projects in Rural Areas*, and *Training Loan Inspectors*. Both publications were translated into Tajik and Uzbek.

### 3. *Yosuman*

- Continued implementation of the project *Help Yourself* funded by Counterpart to mobilize three communities of Mastchoh District in addressing their priority problems.
- Under the project *Our Health is in Our Own Hands* funded by Soros Foundation to prevent the infection disease in Mastchoh District, *Esuman* conducted one training for the project implementers and 4 training workshops on infection disease for the employees of village medical centers.
- Published a brochure on Infection Disease in three languages.
- *Esuman* produced 3 issues of its monthly bulletin *Silai Rahm* (Mercy) on NGO issues.
- Continued providing information support to NGOs and CBOs located in Mastchoh District

### 4. *Yovar*

- In cooperation with the Khujand CSSC *Evar* conducted a research on community development effort and activities in Istarafshan District of Sughd Oblast
- Conducted PCA with *Rugund* Community, assisted them with developing CAP and project proposal to provide the community members with potable water. The proposal was funded by Counterpart under the CAG Program.
- Conducted PCA in *Tutk* community of Istaravshan District.

### 5. *Medservice*

- Through the International Organizations: Merlin, Parmaciens Sans Frontieres and CHAP *Medservice* provided 2000 elderly and alone people of *Telman*, *Shark*, and *Sevastopolskaya* communities of Dushanbe with medicines.
- Provided medical consultations to 432 people from their target communities
- Conducted PCA activity in *Sahbo* and *Zahmanobod* communities of Dushanbe.

### 6. *Harmony of the World*

- *Harmony of World* continues implementing the project *Solving Problem of Children Leisure Time in Microrayon #62 in Collaboration with the Local Community and State Organizations* funded by Counterpart. Within this project:
- a Children Creative Center was established.
- three children clubs were created for 100 children.
- with the local Initiative Group *Daler* the community's irrigation canal was reconstructed to provide the community members with irrigation water.

#### **7. Nilufar**

- Under the project *Community Development* funded by Counterpart, *Nilufar* conducted PCAs with *Luliho*, *Guraha*, *Kosatarosh*, and *Purzobod* communities. These PCAs resulted in developing action plans and project proposals by community activists. *Luliho* and *Guraha* community proposals were funded by Counterpart.
- *Kosatarosh* community project proposal on reconstructing a road was funded by CARE International.
- The leader of the organization participated in the regional Conference *Civil Society through Social Partnership* conducted in Uzbekistan by INTRAC.

#### **8. Munis**

*Munis* has completed its project Mobilization of communities in Karamcul Jamoat of Hisar District supported by Counterpart. During 6 months of the project implementation:

- a Community Development Center (CDD) was established.
- 637 people from Karamcul Jamoat communities visited the CDD for consultation and information.
- 2 PCAs were conducted during the quarter, which resulted in 2 CAPs, two initiative groups were formed in *Toshbulok* and *Gafurov* communities.
- Both CAPs were supported by donors, Counterpart and ORA International

#### **9. Madad**

- *Madad* members participated in the workshop on Gender Analyses conducted by MSDSP in GBAO.
- *Madad* has received grant from Swiss Cooperation Office for its project *Joint Participation of NGOs, Governments and Community Members in Promoting Legal Education*.
- *Madad* has provided regular consultations to their target communities *Shokhdasht* and *Michurin*.

#### **10. Vahdat**

- Under the project *Entrepreneurship Way to Prosperity* funded by Counterpart *Vahdat* members trained additionally 17 people from their target communities and gave them small credits.
- *Vahdat* developed a project proposal for extending the program for another two years covering all the communities of Khorog and submitted it to Democracy Fund for funding.
- *Vahdat* provided technical assistance to *Vartsushdasht* community in developing a project proposal to reconstruct an irrigation canal and submit it to WFP.

#### **11. Hamroz**

- *Hamroz* assisted their target communities: *Komintern* in constructing a medical center and *Mehvar* community in providing the community members with potable water. Both projects were funded by Counterpart under the CAG Program.
- Under the UNHCR Community Mobilization Project *Hamroz* has been working with the community *Kizilkuch* in Bokhtar District to mobilize them in constructing three additional classes for the secondary school #52.
- *Hamroz* completed its project *Poverty Alleviation through Production of Household Goods* funded by Counterpart as NGO Support Grant. Under this grant 20 women of *Mehvar* community were provided with income generation sources.

## **12. Women's Center Chashma**

- The Center's members signed a contract with National Social Investment Fund of Tajikistan (NSIFT) on identifying poorest communities in Khatlon Oblast. They completed conducting the survey in Jilikul District and are planning to conduct this survey in Beshkent, Shahritus, and Kabodion Districts
- The members of *Chashma* attended Participatory Monitoring and Evaluation workshop conducted by the Kurghon – Teppa CSSC.

## **13. The Women's Center Umed**

- Continued implementation of its micro credit program *Supporting Entrepreneurs Families*
- Carried out the project on Creating a Journalist Club in Kulob funded by Gender and Development.
- This quarter *Umed* received two new grants: from Japanese Embassy on opening a training center in Kulob and from UNDP to set up a confectionary workshop in Kulob.

## **14. Anis**

- Continues the implementation of the project *Sectoral Interaction a Key to Building a Civil Society* funded by Eurasia Foundation. Under this project *Anis* conducted training workshops and roundtables on Social Partnership in 10 districts of Kulob Region.

## **15. Sudmand**

- Under the *Young Leaders School* project funded by Eurasia Foundation *Sudmand* conducted
- 5 training workshops, 3 meetings and 3 discussions on the following topics: Conflict Resolution, State and Law, Citizens and Law, How to Become a Leader. They developed a new training module on Tolerance Education for the first classes of secondary schools.
- Under the Community Action Grant *Help Yourself* funded by Counterpart, *Sudmand* continued providing assistance to *Faizobodi Bolo* community Initiative Group in preparing financial and other grant reporting documents

## **Turkmenistan (Target NGOs)**

### **1. Commonwealth of Eco NGOs**

#### **Activity Overview**

- The seminar "Analysis of ecological strategy of the countries of The East Europe, Caucasus and the Central Asia (EECCA)" within the framework of the project of the Ministry on Environmental Protection, "ECO the Consent " (Russia), UNDP carried out by Commonwealth of Eco NGOs. The seminar intended for the representatives of governmental organizations and NGOs.
- The seminar "Eco education of the rural school teachers" in framework of the joint project with OSCE, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Education, Commonwealth of ECO NGOs and NGO "Elemgoshar" conducted.
- The informational meeting and discussion of the strategy is carried out for the Ecological NGOs with logistical support of Ashgabat CSSC.

#### **Internal Capacity Building**

- The member of organization participated on a training "Public Relations in system of the integrated marketing communications", which held at The Winter school of Public Relations, St.-Petersburg.
- Have took part at the working meeting in Tbilisi of the EECCA country members to analyze the ECO strategy, and also consulting meeting on strengthening cooperation between NGOs of EECCA country members, new REC and working group, where was discussed issues of "The National plan of actions of protection of an environment".
- Participated in "The Water Initiatives of the European Union and Countries of CIS " meeting in Moscow.

- There was developed a project "Water for life" dedicated to Earth Day. These include clearing stream in Chuly (location nearby Ashgabat) and information companies. The project submitted to 3 donors.

## **2. Junior Achievement Economic Education and Young Entrepreneurs Center**

### **Activity Overview**

- Trainers of the "Junior Achievement" conducted seminar on technology of critical thinking for the teachers of Dashoguz medical college.
- Work on the appendix "Economy Junior Achievement (JA) of Turkmenistan " completed by experts of the Center.
- Carried out meetings with schools officials and the educational centers on issues of development of program JA in Turkmenistan, particularly at Business center of Dashoguz city, Turkmen-Russian school of Ashgabat and the educational center of Turkmenbashy.
- Carried out the meeting between Center "Junior Achievement" and the Union of Economists of Turkmenistan with representatives of NGO "In united formation" to consult the start up of own business for disabled people in Mary City.

### **Internal Capacity Building**

- There was a meeting with discussion on further plans and opportunities for providing TOT for new trainers.
- Financing for translation of teaching materials on economy JA into Turkmen language provided by Regional CIS Center JA is received.
- The executive director of Center Aina Bayramova it is elected as a member of National Adviser (Council) JAI from the countries of Asia for 2003.

## **3. My Right**

### **Activity Overview**

- Conducted trainings for journalists "Arkadag" on practicing consumer's right.
- Conducted the round table on "Social partnership" dedicated to consumer's rights protection with participation of the Ministry of Trade representatives, international organizations, consumers and NGOs.
- Consultations were given to 70 consumers to practice their rights.

### **Internal Capacity Building**

- Conducted working meetings on a regular basis with representatives of a department of legal regulation from the Ministry of Trade. There was discussion on "the Collection of the normative and legal acts regulating trading activity in Turkmenistan".
- Members of the organization took part in seminars, and on round table on legal issues that was carried out by NGO "Ynam".
- The contract was signed with UNHCR on conducting of seminars for refugees from Afghanistan, living in Ashgabat and Turkmenabat. Seminars for refugees on issues of a consumer rights protection were carried out.

## **4. Union of Pensioners Arma**

### **Activity Overview**

- The four-day seminar on legal regulations of small business activities was carried out in cooperation with "Business School" and PRAGMA.
- The club meeting was conducted on regular base.

### **Internal Capacity Building**

- The business plan on laundry project was developed together with the Union of Economists. The Embassy of Netherlands supported the business plan and the application. As a result, the organization has received three washing machines, 2 ironing boards, and 2 irons.

## **5. Shamchyrag Tukmen Asociation of Journalists on Social Partnership**

### **Activity Overview**

- The seminar "Journalism for NGOs" for Ashgabat CSSC volunteers carried out.

- In the local press was covered information about campaign against smoking conducted by NGO "Preventive maintenance and strengthening of health"
- The newsletter is issued regularly.

#### **Internal Capacity Building**

- Member of organization participated at seminar on gender issue carried out EdNet.
- Participated on the Civil Society legal issues seminar that was conducted by NGO "Bosfor".
- Have taken part on a round table devoted to the international day of consumer organized by NGO "My right".
- Participated at an information seminar devoted to "The Water Convention" organized by the Commonwealth of Ecological NGOs.

### **6. Family Mercy and Health**

#### **Activity Overview**

- The youth sewing shop is organized on the basis of sewing course. It is planned, that the sewing shop will sew for target group: needy children, children - orphans, needy families, older persons.
- Have organized meetings with representatives of local communities to assess opportunities and feasibility for community network development.
- The newsletter is issued on a regular basis.
- Training on healthy lifestyle, vocational training on sewing, as well as English and computers courses were conducted for children from poor and vulnerable families.
- Sports competitions for children and youth of city are conducted on regular basis.
- Participated on UNICEF seminar dedicated to children rights issues.

#### **Internal Capacity Building**

- Organization has established constructive relationship with local government on holding joint seminars etc. and the NGO was invited to the board of Committee on town Municipal improvement along with 11 other representatives of leading government organizations.
- Two projects developed and submitted to donors for consideration. The purposes of projects are development of the youth initiatives and professional orientation of youth for future employment.

### **7. Keyik Okara**

#### **Activity Overview**

- Several training on medical issues for refugees was conducted.
- Ongoing consultations on health prevention provided to women refugees.
- There were organized events devoted to International Women's Day: concert and demonstration of national dishes.
- The courses on sewing and computer skills development carried out.
- Donations received from company "Hazar" were distributed among 65 refugees of Ashgabat city.

#### **Internal Capacity Building**

- The new project was designed and submitted to World Bank.
- Member of the organization participated in assessment feasibility organized by Counterpart for community network development in Akhal velayats.

### **8. Ecological School of Farmers**

#### **Activity Overview**

- Informational materials on ecological and medical issues prepared and distributes among farmers.
- The newsletter is issued.
- Health preventive action conducted in cooperation with "Altyn cheshme" in local community of Gavers etrap.
- Consultations on ecological issues for farmers conducted on regularly basis.

#### **Internal Capacity Building**

- Projects on preventive of drug using and ecological issues were developed and sent to World Bank and UNFPA.

- Members of the organization on a voluntary basis took part in feasibility assessment conducted by Counterpart for community network development in Akhal velayat.
- Members of the organization regularly conduct CT trainings for NGOs and Initiative Groups.
- Members of the organization take part on local and regional CT training.

## **9. Social Adaptation Center *Umyt* in Turkmenbashi City, Balkan**

### **Activity Overview**

- The humanitarian goods (a sweater, underpants, shirts, shoes) received from CHAP and distributed to 3000 people. The work on distribution of the humanitarian assistance was carried out in partnership with department of Social Welfare, Hospital, hakimlik of Turkmenbashi and Hazar cities, Volunteer's Center "Umyt" and Youth club "Elken".
- Members of the organization took part in competitions of Balkan velayat among invalids on table tennis, chess, and football.
- Organization helps children-invalids in reception of medical aid.

### **Internal Capacity Building**

- A re-registration of all members of organization as individual and as collective members was organized. The new membership cards were provided to members.
- Two projects developed and sent to donors.

## **10. *Arzuw*, Seydi City, Lebap**

### **Activity Overview**

- During a winter school holiday the practical seminar for teachers of primary classes of three schools of Seydi city was organized (demonstration lessons, discussion of the common problems, an exchange of experience were carried out).
- Fine arts and dance classes for schoolboys (from 1 to 6 classes) on regular basis there was conducted. These classes provided by volunteers of NGO "Arzuw" 3 times per week.
- Volunteers of NGO organized out-door activities for children in 3 groups of children with 12 people per group.
- The concert devoted to Flag Day and Novruz Bayram was organized for communities in cooperation with the city department of education and "Women Union named after Gurbansoltan-edje".
- Pictures contest on a theme "The Nature of native lands" conducted at three schools of city. Prizes were provided by of NGO's volunteers and provided by local businessman.
- In cooperation with "Women Union named after Gurbansoltan-edje" there was organized and conducted fair of hand-made products (knitting, embroidery, tailored things). Form collected money it is planned to organize a trip for senior school students on a competitive basis to tourist trip in Kugitang.

### **Internal Capacity Building**

- Educational project developed with Lebap CSSC consultations.

## **11. *Medet*, Turkmenabat City**

### **Activity Overview**

- "English language for Afghan refugees" started in framework of project supported by UNHCR.
- Free-of-charge courses of computer skills development for 20 children from poor families were carried out.
- Novruz-bayram competition "Skilful handles" on the best soft toy was organized and carried out. Hand-made souvenirs were gifted to children from Orphan House.

### **Internal Capacity Building**

- The action "Day without a smoke" with seminar and discotheque for youth and students of language course of NGO "Medet" was carried out. The raised funds spent for food for Orphan House.

## **12. *Amul*, Turkmenabat City**

### **Activity Overview**

- The shot documentary film (3 hours) dedicated to tenth anniversary of education program of the President of Turkmenistan "Bilimli Nesil" (Healthy Knowledge) created in partnership with Lebap velayat department of education.

### **Internal Capacity Building**

- The application for small grant of the World Bank sent.
- New members have joined the team.
- NGOs representatives attended Round Table "Legal issues of NGOs activities in Turkmenistan" conducted by Lebap CSSC.

### **13. Sarygamysh, Dashoguz city**

#### **Activity Overview**

- 4 CAG projects on improving access to portable water for local communities completed.
- The Round Table on achievements of CAG projects carried out with participating of representatives from hakimlik, archinlik, and communities.

#### **Internal Capacity Building**

- Participated in Discussion clubs of Dashoguz CSSC.
- The additional finances attracted through participation in implementation of project WATSAN.
- Training and tests for members of community on using the pumps carried out.

### **14. Uchgun, Turkmenbashi etrap, Dashoguz**

#### **Activity Overview**

- Training module on "Brest feeding" and "Preventive maintenance of infectious diseases" for the medical personnel of the local health organizations are developed and began to utilize.

#### **Internal Capacity Building**

- The letter of interest for participation in the project "Healthy communities" of Counterpart submitted.
- Members of the organization took part at CT training.
- Regularly participate in work of Discussion club of Dashoguz CSSC.

## **Uzbekistan (Focus NGOs)**

### **1. Center for the Support of Disabled Children and their Families *Umidvorlik***

#### **Activity Overview**

- A musical salon for children with speech defect continues to work. 15 children with disabilities attended it twice a week.
- Individual lessons within the program *Wish to learn* conducted once a week
- *Training of teenagers with disabilities to repair shoes* and *Speech development* is going on. The workshop opened 5 days a week.
- During the quarter preparation to the Conference on *Education for all* to be conducted in April 2003.

#### **Internal Capacity Building**

- Group of fundraisers works on attraction of funds to the organization. New Year celebration for children and activity on programs of the organization was conducted on fundraised money.
- The leader of the organization participated at the Conference and following trainings on *Advocacy* conducted by *CASP*.

#### **Community Outreach**

- Juridical and psychological consultations for parents of disabled children and NGOs are conducted.
- The activity on rights protection and advocacy for families having disabled children is going on.
- The organization conducted work meetings with representatives of National Education on the problem of confined access to the qualitative education for disabled children.

- Another radio program about organization activity was issued at the radio channels *Dustlik* and *Grand*.

## **2. Association of Pediatricians of the Bukhara region *Avitsena***

### **Activity Overview**

- Contest of projects on the most actual medical topics among young doctors and medical students was conducted. 63 people participated in the contest. The winners were awarded with memorable gifts from the organization.
- The leader of the organization entered a team of editorial board of bulletin of Association of general practice doctors of the Republic of Uzbekistan. As the result, 6 articles of the organization's members presented into the collected articles of the Republic of Uzbekistan devoted to the anniversary of Academician Bakhramov. 1 article presented to the congress of resuscitator and anesthetists of the Republic of Uzbekistan. 2 articles presented to the Republican Conference on problems of pulmonology conducted in Tashkent. 1 article presented to the anniversary collection of articles of Yuldashev.
- Projects to Counterpart's and ZdravPlus partner program were prepared. Other medical NGOs also have been consulted on project design.
- The leader of the organization participated at the Conference conducted by *CASP*.

### **Internal Capacity Building**

- The Organization's office was designed. Window bars were established.
- During the reporting period office furniture and equipment was purchased.
- Additionally 10 trainers on Integrated treatment of diseased children among rural doctors were prepared.
- The Association's web-site was updated.
- During the reporting period the governing structure has been reorganized and executive organ has been established.

### **Community Outreach**

- The organization made the analysis on the condition of Public Health in the Republic Uzbekistan for the last 3 years.
- The alarm issue of informational bulletin of the Coalition of Medical NGOs *Be Healthy* was published.

## **3. Interregional Rehabilitation Center *Umid (IRC)***

### **Activity Overview**

- Round Table on development of the plan on right protection of burned and oncological people was conducted in Samarkand.
- Round Table on the role of coalition in development of Civil Society in the region was conducted in Karshi.

### **Internal Capacity Building**

- One of the main achievements of the organization was getting social orders for Oblast Khokimiyat and rayon Khokimiyats. These orders are not paid.
- Two Rural Legal Cabinets (RLC) in Payaryskiy and Urgetskiy rayons on the request of the residents and local governments have been opened. The agreement on giving additional lands for development of RLCs with local governments has been signed.
- The Center conducted training for staff of all RLCs on Fundraising and Social partnership.
- In February the reconstruction of the hub-office of the organization was finished.
- For RLC *IRODA* Khokimiyat gave some lands. For now agricultural works has been started at the lands by patients of the shelter.
- Cooperation with Makhalla Committees and Khokimiyat of Chelekskiy rayon has been established.

### **Community Outreach**

- Two charitable actions have been conducted by the Center during the reporting period.
- In the RLC *IRODA* school for girls-teenagers continued its operation.

- The organization stated to provide consultations of Jurist, Psychologist and gynecologist by the phone.
- In the Center the school for girls against violation started its activity rather successfully.

#### **4. Fergana Oblast Center for the Social-Legal Support of Women and Teenagers *Ishonch***

##### **Activity Overview**

- Jointly with Juridical firm *Khimoya Kalkoni* Bulletin of the firm on *Examples of economic agreements for subjects of private entrepreneurship* was issued.
- In February US Ambassador in Uzbekistan visited the organization with the purpose to discuss NGO activity, plans for the future, vision of Civil Society development in Uzbekistan. The Center staff and leaders of target NGOs participated at the meeting.

##### **Internal Capacity Building**

- In January the organization's proposal on "Preparation of specialists for crisis centers and development of Manual for Makhalla Committees of prevention of domestic violence" was approved by Soros Foundation. Sokh branch of the organization is also granted with this project. The work on this projects includes development of the Module and preparation of psychologists, gynecologists and jurists.

##### **Community Outreach**

- Information received by the organization by e-mail was resent to all target NGOs and IGs.
- The organization continued providing technical and consultative support to all target NGOs and IGs
- Distribution of humanitarian aid received from Counterpart International's *CHAP* to poor families of Fergana Oblast is going on. Residents living in more than 30 Makhallas got the aid.
- Trust phone continued its operation.

#### **5. Kokand Branch of the *Businesswomen Association (BWA)***

##### **Activity Overview**

- In cooperation with Economic Center *Nodira* the activity under the project to conduct trainings for entrepreneurs on Basics of entrepreneurship financed by *Eurasia* Foundation has started.
- 6 seminars in 3 rayons for entrepreneurs and farmers were conducted for the project financed by *Eurasia* Foundation.

##### **Internal Capacity Building**

- During the reporting period all the coordinative councils of the BWA programs developed and revised semi-annual work plans. As the result members of coordinative councils have been revised and corrections into the Strategic Plan have been included.
- In January the finalizing annual meeting of BWA was conducted. More than 100 BWA members participated. On this meeting the Strategy for 2003-2004 years was approved.
- The meeting of Founders of Credit Union *Oltin Vodiy* was conducted. The Charter was approved, structure of Governing body was composed consisting of Board of Directors and Executive Director.

##### **Community Outreach**

- As the result of work of Jurists in consulting leaders of NGOs on record keeping training for 40 NGOs from Kokand-city and nearby rayons was conducted.
- In the beginning of January preparative conference on discussion of the proposal for the Law on charity activity and charitable organizations was conducted. Later the final conference on this topic was conducted. Representatives of three sectors as well as some International organizations participated on the Conference.

## F. Coordination and Cooperation

### Kazakhstan

During the reporting quarter, the Country staff's actions included the following:

- Counterpart Kazakhstan Director participated in the Round table *Social Work in Kazakhstan* organized by the Soros-Kazakhstan Fund. During the meeting, social work perspectives related to current situation were discussed. Among the participants were two professors from United States: Mr. David Yam from Columbia University, and Mr. Gautam N. Yadama from Washington University in St. Louis. Country Director met Mr. Thomas Moroz, a new Director of the Soros Foundation to discuss further mutual cooperation in NGO development.
- Community Outreach Coordinator provided the Support Centers with informational materials on assessment of needs for creation of community network (criteria, research algorithm, report and interview formats). By January 31, plans of conducting related research were designed and submitted by CSSC of Astana and Semey.
- Country Director met Mr. Larry Held, an official of AED/START program, and discussed some changes in Counterpart's training program funded by USAID through AED. Particularly, two trainings were in a focus of Counterpart's attention: *Network & Coalition Building* and *Financial Sustainability*. AED proposed to organize the second training at the regional level.
- The training request for the first training will be changed and submitted to AED in February 2003. On January 10, Community Outreach Coordinator and *Zhalghas* staff met representatives of Association of Societies *Baspana* and Institute of Ecology & Sustainable Development to discuss cooperation issues and share views concerning community network building in Almaty region.
- Counterpart's Report & Project Designer, OD Program Coordinator and *Zhalghas* Director as Founders of YISK participated in the meeting with NDI officials and YISK associates to discuss further Action Plan of Youth Information Service of Kazakhstan (January 8).
- On January 21, Counterpart Kazakhstan' staff discussed USAID/CAR Program description.
- January 24, A Senior Program Officer and *Zhalghas* Program Coordinator participated in the UNDP' Roundtable on discussion of draft law *On State Social Delivery*.
- On January 31, a Senior Program Officer met Linda Yoon, a volunteer of US Peace Corps and discussed creation of NGO database on donor agencies. The data is to be compiled by a Peace Corps and distributed to Counterpart's Support Centers.
- Country Director met Mr. Andrey Balandin, a representative of University of Alabama (UofA) to discuss future cooperation between Counterpart and UofA, as it plans to conduct research on *TB* issue in Kazakhstan. In this connection need assistance in financial and logistic management. Next meeting with a Chief of Party of University of Alabama is expected in April to negotiate and sign the contract.
- On February 12, Community Outreach and OD Program Coordinators met officials of Oblast Department of Internal Policy & Social Sphere to discuss NGO development, Counterpart's program activity in the regions and ways of NGO-State interaction and partnership.
- The meeting of ICNL Director, Counterpart Kazakhstan Director, Regional Training Coordinator, Senior Program Officer and Training Coordinator was aimed at discussion of *Corporate Philanthropy* project (February 17 and 24).
- Case Study on Qostanai CSSC' expertise in social partnership was compiled and submitted to Regional Community Outreach Coordinator and will be placed in Counterpart's training module.
- Presentation materials of *Community Outreach* being designed by Nurlan Zhumabekov for the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Kazakhstan were discussed with Marat Aitmagambetov (Country Director) Raushan Amanzhanova (Regional Community Outreach Coordinator), Jamila Asanova (Senior Program Officer) and Galym Zhukupabyev (*Zhalghas* Coordinator) during the meeting of February 20.
- On February 27, Community Outreach Coordinator took part in the meeting of *Expert Grant Committee* of the World Bank to examine proposals on innovation program. The Committee' members selected 96 out of 349 applications. Next, 36 applications were selected to be designed as project proposals. The final meeting is to be held in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan.

- Alibi Jangildin and Askhat Bekzhanov – *Eco Tourism* project designers met a representative of Central Asian Academy of Tourist Instructors to discuss eco tourism development and its challenges in southeast Kazakhstan. In addition, a correspondence and phone conversation with The Eurasian Coordinator were conducted to discuss further joint action in realization of *Eco Tourism* project, newly designed and launched by the Eurasia Foundation, OSCE and VSO.
- Directors of Counterpart offices in Germany, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan and Zhalghas-Counterpart and Report Manager of Counterpart-Kyrgyzstan had a meeting with Mr. Bryan Tall, a representative of EU Commission to discuss the EU priorities for the near future.
- Country Director had a meeting with Mr. Kurmangazy Beg Ali, a Head of *TB* patients association, to discuss a joint proposal to the World Bank. The \$200,000 project is currently under development and to be submitted by the end of April 2003.
- A phone conversation with Ms. Carrie O'Rourke, a Director ISAR Atyrau was held to discuss further cooperation in the development of NGO sector in West Kazakhstan.
- Senior Program Officer and Community Outreach Coordinator took part in the Round table meeting (March 14) of donor organizations working in Kazakhstan in the field of community outreach program (Counterpart Consortium, UNDP, INTRAC, VSO, Kazakhstan Micro Credit Fund). Community Outreach Coordinator made a presentation of Counterpart program for the period of 2001 – 2003.
- On March 20, OD Program Coordinator met members of Counterpart's focus NGOs to summarize organizational development for the last 2 years and discuss the program activity March – June 2003 plan. Mrs. Sevruykova, a President of CNOK made a special presentation about earlier held meeting with the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan.
- A proposal to conduct M&E in Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan (application & group CVs – Dana Amanova, Alibi Jangildin, Nurlan Zhumabekov, Nurlan Sakhanov) was compiled and sent to the consideration by Eurasia Foundation – Kyrgyzstan (March 14). The official respond is expected by the second week of April.
- March 24 – 25, Nurlan Sakhanov performed a session on *NGO Challenges & Development in Kazakhstan* in the seminar for Peace Corps volunteers. The seminar was held in Kapal-Arasan Sanatorium (100 km away from Taldy-Korghan of Almaty Oblast)

## Kyrgyzstan

### Meetings/Conferences/Contacts

- The Country Director E. Kasybekov and Senior Program Officer A. Nusupov took part at regular USAID/DM meetings discussing recent activities of USAID contractors and addressing common issues. One of the important issues was a Constitution Reform Referendum during which some of CSSCs network and Coalition one members were harassed by Kyrgyz government. The possible ways of support in future were discussed.
- E. Kasybekov had a meeting with Damira Biybosunova, USAID health coordinator, and discussed with her draft documents on Healthy communities to be presented at press-conference.
- E. Kasybekov had a meeting with Stan Peabody, WB representative and Elmira Ibramimova, country coordinator of Village Investment Project funded by WB loan at 10 million USD and to be implemented by the end of this year. Counterpart approaches to community mobilization were discussed and possible ways of cooperation in future were negotiated. Elmira expressed her interested in our community outreach strategy.
- E. Kasybekov had a meeting with Charles Buxton, regional program manager of INTRAC and was invited by him to attend INTAC conference to be held in Bishkek in April 28-29.
- E. Kasybekov attended a Forum Community Driven Development initiated by World Bank. The major issue was to present CEN project, which will be implemented by Sheriktesh.
- E. Kasybekov had a meeting with Elmira Shishkaraeva, Program Director from Soros Foundation in Kyrgyz Republic and discussed with her a future collaboration of Counterpart and Soros Foundation in terms of support CSSC activities at oblast level. The decision was made that

Counterpart will focus on its support to 7 centers till June 15 and Soros Foundation will continue to support them till end of the year.

- On January 29-30, E. Kasybekov and A. Nusupov took part in the TACIS Conference held in Brussels. The idea of the conference was to ensure networking among TACIS grantees, which started implementation of their projects in 2002. The Conference was useful and interesting, especially the sessions on contracting issues and selection process. The personal meeting with the EU Project Manager Mrs. A. Nicolo also took place.
- On February 20, A. Nusupov took part in the DM meeting, The participants discussed issues of transparency in working procedures of the Frequency Committee, which is responsible for providing frequencies to electronic media.
- On March 11, E. Kasybekov, A. Nusupov and C. Schuierer, Director of Counterpart Germany, met Mr. Brian Toll, the Head of EC Delegation in Almaty, to introduce him to the activities of Counterpart Kyrgyzstan and Counterpart Germany, and to discuss possibilities of future cooperation with the EC Delegation.
- On March 12, A. Nusupov took part in the planning meeting of UNHCR and its implementing partners. The participants discussed general programming issues for the year of 2004.
- On March 14, E. Kasybekov and C. Schuierer had a meeting with German Ambassador in Kyrgyzstan. They introduced him their joint partnership. He was very keen to learn about CSSCs activities and they agreed if he'll plan to go to the field E. Kasybekov advices him the best communities to visit as well as CSSCs.
- On March 25, A. Nusupov took part in the meeting of international organizations, working in the Southern Kyrgyzstan. The meeting was organized by USAID and UNDP, and devoted to the issues of cooperation between CDD projects, being implemented in the South. The Hub Office established a list serve [southcoop@counterpart.org.kg](mailto:southcoop@counterpart.org.kg) to promote information exchange among them.

## Projects

- The new project with TACIS funding *Promoting Entrepreneurship on a Grass-root Level*, was launched and its inception phase has completed. The Hub Office staff together with partners- C. Schuierer and P. Sauer of Counterpart Germany- visited CSSCs of Kara-Balta and Nookat, and 4 pre-selected target villages. They discussed project implementation with the field staff and conduct interviews with village administration, community leaders and target groups and share outcome with project and CSSCs staff. The partners designed and implements 4 days training and project planning workshop in Bishkek for CSSCs and Hub Office staff on March 3-6, where the project logframe was revised and operational plans developed.
- Within the framework of the project #99/0439 with EU funding, aimed at strengthening the ability of local communities to advocate on behalf of their citizenry and ensuring their participation in decision-making process, the team of Counterpart Germany, consisting of Ms. C. Schuierer, Director, Mr. P. Sauer, Vice-Chairman, Ms. V. Hilbermann, Networking Coordinator visited Kyrgyzstan on February 20- March 14. The goals of the visit were to evaluate implementation of community development strategies and to identify potentials/weaknesses based of information to be collected through observations and discussion with target communities. They delivered the workshop on *Impact Evaluation* on March 10-14, where they transferred new knowledge and expertise in identifying impacts of the EU program and community projects. The fifth issue of the newsletter *Jamaat Demilgesi (Community Initiative)* was prepared and published. The project website, which will be serving as an instrument promoting networking among NGOs, CBOs and communities, was designed by V. Hilbermann.
- The project 03/AB/KGZ/LS/470 with UNHCR funding, aimed at providing support to refugee organizations, was launched this quarter. Within the project framework, the Hub Office will support citizenship acquisition campaign and continue providing limited support services the refugee NGOs and communities of Chui, Osh and Batken Oblasts, inclusive of delivering consultations and training seminars, disseminating information, and assisting in building partnership on a local level. The detailed workplans for CSSCs of Kara-Balat, Kant, Nookat and Batken were developed. The Citizenship Coordinator R. Ashimbaev conducted a series of

meeting with refugee NGOs to discuss progress made last year in citizenship issues and identify specific needs to speed-up the process in 2003.

- The idea of new partnership project, to be submitted to the TACIS, was finalized after series of meetings between Counterpart Kyrgyzstan, Counterpart Germany and Soros Foundation Kyrgyzstan. The new project will aim at assisting urban communities of 2 towns in the Ferghana Valley and in Chui oblast (Tash-Kumyr and Kant) to actively participate in local decision making for urban planning and development and to design and implement their own community projects to improve their social, physical and economic infrastructure. It was decided that Counterpart Germany will be an applicant, while Counterpart Kyrgyzstan and Soros Foundation will be project partners.

## Tajikistan

- Counterpart had a number of meetings and consultations with independent lawyers and Ministry of Justice's representatives regarding Counterpart International registration in Tajikistan.
- Met with WB and UNDP representatives regarding the CEN project. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the issue of setting up a Steering Group, which will be responsible for project management. The list of potential candidates was developed together.
- The Country Director met with IREX Director to discuss partnership possibilities. IREX is planning to establish Internet Centers in all regions of Tajikistan. The Kurgon-Teppa CSSC is partnering with IREX providing office and other facilities for Internet Center. The CSSC has free access to e-mail and Internet and will own all the equipment provided by IREX after termination of the contract.
- The Country Director met with USAID and AED representatives to discuss the issue of reviewing Counterpart's training requests by regional AED. It was agreed that RO of Counterpart will negotiate with regional AED regarding the issue.
- The CD and CA had a meeting with CARE representative to discuss possibilities for partnership in future.
- CD met with the representative of the American NGO *Harmony*, implementing a project in Ukraine. He presented a project to provide access to Internet and civic education, which is intended to expand for CA countries. The CSSC network was recommended for partnership within this project.
- CD and CA met with NDI representative in Tajikistan. NDI is interested in partnering with Counterpart in future.
- CD met with OSCE representative to discuss possibilities of building partnership with the CSSCs. It was mentioned that in some regions OSCE is already subcontracting CSSCs to provide services to their clients. CD shared information about the Network of CSSCs functioning in all regions of Tajikistan and about their potential and resources to provide quality services to IOs.
- The Deputy Director met with the new head of Internews and introduced to him Counterpart Tajikistan programs.
- DD met with the representatives of Soros Foundation, Democracy Fund and Eurasia Foundation regarding renewing Donor Organizations meetings. All expressed interest in continuing the Donor Organizations Forum
- DD participated in Mercy Corps grant review committee under Nike program. Mercy Corps presented Certification of Appreciation to Counterpart for participating in the grant review process
- Met with Zdrav Plus Country Director Edward Harris to discuss some Health Program issues
- Participated in the meeting of the Aid Coordination Unit under the Presidential Office with the international organizations
- Participated in the meeting of the World Bank with NGOs working with communities under their Community Driven Development (CDD) Program.

## Turkmenistan

- Consultant for Project for Central Asia Milieu Contact OOST-EUROPA Kanysht Nuryngereyv applied with request for a meeting with Counterpart. During this meeting Consultant Milieu Contact OOST-EUROPA presented the program and proposed the cooperation to support Turkmen ecological NGOs. The possible way of joint support could be jointly financing of NGOs projects submitted simultaneously to both organizations Counterpart and Milieu Contact.
- Counterpart participates on a regular monthly USAID partners meeting.

## Uzbekistan

### Meetings/Conferences/Contacts

#### Projects

- In the frames of partnership between Counterpart-Uzbekistan and CHF Counterpart continued rendering training assistance to CHF's CAIP program in the following:
  1. Consultations and assistance in selecting Uzbek language speaking candidates to trainers to implement the program;
  2. Assistance in preparation and conduction of two TOTs on *Methodology of Adult Education* in Karshi and Termez cities. 44 people have been trained.
  3. Assistance in preparation and conduction of TOT on the third Module *Sustainability and project Management*.
  4. Assistance in preparation and conduction of TOT on the first Module *Leading a Community Group*.

Also, Counterpart implemented partner project for CHF. The main purpose it was to conduct research and assessment of communities in two Oblasts - Sukhandarya and Kashkadarya to assist CHF/Counterpart International (CHF/CI) CAIP in: potential verification and subsequent justification of 29 current communities, and selection, justification and approval of an additional 37 communities, 6 of which will act as alternates (3 in each region). The project was managed by Programs Director, Counterpart-Uzbekistan, Hub-office. 4 facilitators – one from Hub-office, two from Tashkent and Bukhara CSSCs and one attracted specialist – implemented the project.

- Partnership with Training Center *Bilim va Jamiyat* on implementation of the project financed by Eurasia Foundation on creation of the Module and conduction of the series of training on *Social Marketing for NGOs* has been continued in the Quarter. 2 last trainings in Karshi and Termez cities were conducted.
- According to the Memorandum of Understanding between UNDP *Internet Project* and Counterpart-Uzbekistan, the last of 3 planned trainings on *Project Design* for the group of 13 people of UNDP beneficiaries and NGO representatives involved into training component of the project.
- During the reporting period under the UNICEF Project *Hygiene and Sanitation Promotion through schools* construction of toilets and trainings for teachers and directors of the selected schools has begun both in Khorezm Oblast and Karakalpakstan. Urgench and Nukus CSSC actively involved into the project.
- New program on *Healthy Communities* has started in Uzbekistan by Counterpart in cooperation with ZdravPlus Program. Counterparts CSSC are involved into the program as consultants within grant and training components. Orientation for the CSSC was made by Counterpart and ZdravPlus.

#### Support Centers

All the CSSCs except Namangan one as participants of the 5-Module series of trainings conducted by INTRAC on February 20 and March 4, 2003 participated at the work meetings of the group on Monitoring and Evaluation by INTRAC in Tashkent. As the result of these meetings work plans for each work group were developed. The purpose of establishing such groups is to monitor and evaluate

the impact of the trainings conducted. Participants of one region will monitor and evaluate NGOs participated in trainings from other regions.

CSSC	Activities
Tashkent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In January 2003 in cooperation with the Network partners – Samarkand, Kokand and Nukus CSSCs – under the project <i>Civic Society in Uzbekistan</i> granted by INTRAC information was gathered. Later in cooperation with the Nukus CSSC presentation of the main findings was made.</li> <li>• January 23-26, 2003 – training on <i>Social Marketing</i> implemented by Training Center <i>Bilim va Jamiyat</i> in cooperation with CSSCs. It was conducted in the frames of the project granted by <i>Eurasia Foundation</i> in Termez-city. All the logistical works were done by the Termez NGO <i>Ayol va Salomatlik</i>.</li> <li>• In January 2003 on the request of the UNAIDS a package of documents on NGO registration was prepared by the Agency staff.</li> <li>• Close cooperation was established with Khokimiyat of Mirzo-Ulugbekskiy rayon of Tashkent-city. Khokimiyat applied to the CSSC with the request to train heads of Makhalla Women Committees on the Counterpart’s trainings. In February 2003 two trainings on <i>NGO and Community</i> – one in Russian and the other in Uzbek languages – were conducted.</li> <li>• Training for NGO representatives on using computers was renewed beginning from March 2003 under the cooperative agreement between the Agency and UNITEs Uzbekistan.</li> <li>• The agreement between the Agency and the <i>UNITEs</i> was signed in March 2003. This agreement stipulates provision of technical resources of the Agency for computer training courses for NGOs.</li> <li>• In March 13-14 the CSSC conducted training on <i>NGO and Community</i> for the <i>National Democratic Party of Uzbekistan</i>. This training was conducted based on the Counterpart Module with some adjustments to the interest of the client. This training has got many positive responses. In the future continuation of the cooperation is planned.</li> <li>• In March 12-14, the Conference on Social Partnership was organized by AED/START in cooperation with Interregional Rehabilitation Center <i>UMID</i> (Samarkand) and Agency of Social Researches <i>ITA FACT</i> (Tashkent) for NGOs of Surkhandarya and Kashkadarya Oblasts. Preliminary results of the research on <i>Civil Society Development in Uzbekistan</i> was presented. This research has been conducted by the Agency.</li> </ul>
Kokand	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In March 29-30, the CSSC conducted training on <i>Organization of the Community</i> for the target NGOs of <i>ABA/CEELI</i> in Fergana-city.</li> </ul>
Namangan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• On March 10 the CSSC organized meeting of the <i>Project Harmony</i> with Namangan Oblast NGOs.</li> <li>• On March 25 the CSSC in cooperation with <i>Namangan Society of Red Crescent</i> conducted a Charitable Action called <i>Give children a joy</i>. This action was for 46 orphan and disabled children of Namangan-city. The purpose is development of charity through attraction of sponsors and funds from local NGOs, business and state organizations for moral and material support to the orphan and disabled children. Another purpose was to develop Volunteer movement.</li> </ul>
Samarkand	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In January 21-22, the CSSC organized training on <i>Accounting and Taxation for NGOs</i> conducted by <i>START/AED</i> for Samarkand and Djizak Oblast NGOs</li> <li>• On February 22 the CSSC provided visa receiving and logistical support for the <i>CARE International</i> (Tajikistan) staff.</li> <li>• During February the CSSC rendered organizational support to the NGO <i>Teenager</i> in conduction of the series of Round Tables and Conference on <i>Development of the Volunteer Initiatives</i> for NGOs and the youth of Samarkand-city. These events were final stages of the project the NGO <i>Teenager</i> implemented under the <i>Eurasia</i></li> </ul>

	<p><i>Foundation grant.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The CSSC rendered assistance to the UN National Democratic Institute (Tashkent) in organizing meeting with 20 NGOs. This meeting was devoted to the questions of democracy development, conduction of advocacy campaigns, NGO role in the state policy, etc.</li> <li>• In March 24-26 the CSSC rendered assistance in organization of meetings with NGOs to the <i>INTRAC</i> in conduction of the training needs assessment of the Samarkand Oblast NGOs.S</li> </ul>
Bukhara	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NGO <i>Tashabbus</i> rendered assistance to the CSSC in conduction of the meeting of Navoyi Oblast NGOs in January.</li> </ul>
Nukus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• On January 17 was conducted meeting with Director and Manager of the Program of Children Survival <i>Omira Nuri</i> for Counterpart International. The CSSC staff was invited to participate in the final seminar and to facilitate one session on PR, and present CSSC activity.</li> <li>• In February 2003 the CSSC rendered assistance to <i>INTRAC</i> in organization of meeting of <i>INTRAC</i> representatives with local NGO representatives.</li> <li>• Under the project of <i>UNICEF</i> new telephone line was established, additional telephone set was purchase what allowed to ease work of staff and work of Resource Center.</li> </ul>
Urgench	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In March 27-28 the CSSC rendered assistance to the <i>Konrad Adenauer Fund</i> (Germany) in organization of the seminar <i>Youth and Democracy</i> for active representatives of the city youth.</li> </ul>

## G. Leveraging

### **Kazakhstan**

- January 1 – March 31. \$4,017.96 – office operation costs for financial/administration staff (in the framework of CDC/University of Michigan/Hepatitis Project; Grant Agreement # DHHA-PHS-C-AGMT). \$3,672 – rental fee from Counterpart International

### **Kyrgyzstan**

- In February, the Hub Office signed a contract with UNHCR for \$50,600 for 2003 to implement the project aimed at strengthening the ability of refugee organizations to advocate on behalf of their clientele with emphasis on pushing citizenship agenda, ensure their participation in decision-making processes affecting the social and economic environment on local and national levels, and smoothing integration process both refugees and new citizens.

### **Turkmenistan**

**\$ 42,330.26** has been leveraged this quarter through:

- \$ 7,179.00 from UNICEF Turkmenistan for Counterpart Turkmenistan for implementation an assessment of school WES facility for rehabilitation on Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Project.
- \$ 30,000.00 from UNHCR WGIRR for project 530 implementation
- \$ 229.26 INTRAC for Charyev Yazgylych Country Director of Counterpart Turkmenistan for participation in the meeting of INTRAC Regional Advisory Group on January 29, Tashkent.
- \$ 1500.00 from National Council of Economic Education USA for Irina Mukhammedova Program Coordinator of Ashgabat CSSC for participation in the seminar “Training for trainers” in Kiev, Ukraine.
- \$ 3,422.00 from British Embassy Turkmenistan for participation in the training courses at the Eurasia Media Center. Participants will be determined in April.

### **Uzbekistan**

- To implement the project on CAIP Communities Selection and Verification CHF paid Counterpart 5,500.00USD. Details on the project are in the Coordination and Cooperation part of the report.

## H. Lessons Learned

### Kazakhstan

- Activity and coordination with the Support Centers in the framework of *Health Communities* program was hampered by lack of detailed procedure in financing CSSC. In this connection, a Health Program Coordinator and a Grant Manager, based on the local expertise, have designed related suggestions and comments to the Regional office.
- Close scrutiny of the EU/TACIS new guideline showed that conception of eco tourism project doesn't meet the new requirements as Kazakhstan is out of list of grant eligible states. In this connection, the project proposal is to be designed to correspond criteria in the framework of *BISTRO* program of EU Commission, and of other programs of potential donors as the World Bank and GTZ.
- As AED training on Corporate Charity was called off, related research is to be performed on later period. On the other hand, a proposal on *Visitors Exchange Program* of USAID was designed in the framework of corporate charity development.
- An analysis revealed a few inaccuracies in service database of Astana CSSC. As a result of interaction with the CSSC program staff, the data was adjusted and submitted to the Regional office by February 17.
- The CSSC – *Association of Qostanai NGOs* submitted community network PCA report that lacked a comprehensive data and proper structure. In this connection, a letter, containing thorough comments and recommendations regarding report adjustment, was sent to the attention of given the Support Center staff. As a result, redesigned appropriate report was given to the Hub office by the date fixed.
- So long as an old issue concerns the report design, a concise presentation on impact development was performed to CSSC associates during the Quarterly meeting, and it was agreed to follow guideline and take into account recommendations regarding proper success stories design.

### Turkmenistan

- Counterpart Turkmenistan started to practice involving of leading NGO members into post project evaluation process and conflict resolution within the its Grant programs. Two years ago the Grant equipments (office equipment and mini van) were taken away from Grantees NGOs “Special Olympics” and “Ymyt” because of internal organizational conflicts and changing of status of their organizations. The grant was provided within the partnership grant category to two NGOs. At the end they could not agreed to continue joint using of equipments. At the same time the both organizations claimed the equal ownership to the equipments. Counterpart tried its best to help them to solve their conflict, but failed. At the end was decided to involve the NGO members in conflict resolution. The members of five NGOs were selected to conduct problem assessment and produce recommendation to the further actions to solve the problem.
- Now it is decided that office equipment should stay with “Ymyt” and the mini van with “Special Olympics” because of their capacity and clients needs to manage those equipments.

### Uzbekistan

- Conclusion not to plan paid trainings for individuals, but provide corporative paid trainings. It was announced through advertisement on *Monitoring and Evaluation* training and as a result it was not able to attract enough number of participants.
- Presentation of the results of the partner project implemented by Counterpart-Uzbekistan for CHF on CAIP program showed the effectiveness of such an action. It was decided to present Counterpart activity for the last 3 years to current and potential donors.
- Participatory approach used in conduction of the last OD consultancies with client organizations was very effective. This approach in fact made this consultancy became demanded.
- Request for providing feedback from clients after finishing the process of OD consultancy allows improve its effectiveness.

- **II. SECTOR SPECIFIC SUPPORT: THE INTERNATIONAL CENTER FOR NOT-FOR-PROFIT LAW**

<b>A. PROJECT PURPOSE</b>
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The purpose of the ICNL project component is:

- 1. To nourish a continuing NGO-state relationship;**
- 2. In coordination, cooperation, and collaboration with USAID, its contractors and grantees, to assist in the construction of a comprehensive legal and fiscal framework that will enable the NGO sector to thrive in the region and contribute in a meaningful way to the development of civil society.**

<b>B. PROJECT IMPACTS</b>
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### **Kazakhstan**

#### ***The Government of Kazakhstan approved the State Program of Government Support of NGOs***

Finally, on March 17, 2003, the Government of Kazakhstan approved the State Program of Government Support of NGOs. This program has the status of the legislative act, and authorizes specified government branches to “work on creation of conditions for sustainable development of NGOs, as a part of civil society and to strengthen their role in resolving socially important problems based on cooperation with and support from the Government”. This is an important first step towards the improvement of relations between NGOs and the government and, hopefully, termination of the constitutional prohibition against any direct or indirect government support to public associations. This constitutional prohibition has no international precedents. However, this is of course only the first step, and unless appropriate follow up legislation is adopted and implemented, the program will remain only a declaration of good intent.

### **Kyrgyzstan**

#### ***Amendments to the Tax Code including tax privileges for NGOs signed into law***

On December 16, 2002, the Kyrgyz Parliament passed the Law on Amendments to the Tax Code. The law was signed by the Kyrgyz President on March 8, 2003. The new amendments exempt humanitarian aid, grants, charity donations, endowments, membership and entry fees from income tax, and provide additional incentives for companies and individuals to support charities by increasing allowable deductions from 2 to 5% of a taxpayer’s taxable income. The amendments also exempt supplies of goods and services provided by charitable organizations for charitable purposes from VAT. In addition, amendments improve implementation of existing tax code provisions by providing clear definitions of the key terms “charitable organization”, “charitable activities”, “membership fees”, “entry fees”, “grants”, and “humanitarian aid”.

The amendments to the Tax Code represent the culmination of an extensive two year effort by the International Center for Not-for-Profit Law (ICNL), to improve the tax treatment of NGOs in collaboration with all the stake holders. These amendments are the product of joint efforts undertaken by NGOs, progressive parliamentarians and government officials, and international organizations.

In May 2001 ICNL, with financial assistance of the USAID’s Global Program, held a Central Asian regional conference in Issyk-Kul which brought the attention of the Kyrgyz government and parliamentarians to the problematic issue of NGO taxation.

The remainder of 2001 was spent effectively facilitating a participatory process of drafting amendments to the tax code, and educating NGOs, government and parliamentarians on good international practices of taxation of NGOs. And as a result, in early 2002, at the initiative of two Parliamentary Committees with the assistance of ICNL, a roundtable discussion on the need to revise the Tax Code provisions affecting NGOs was organized among NGOs, government officials and

parliamentarians. In February 2002 ICNL organized and financed a special workshop at the Issyk Kul where the official Working Group (including parliamentarians, senior government officials, tax experts, and ICNL) developed initial drafts of the proposed amendments. Subsequently, the IMF, Barents Group, and other international organizations had an opportunity to comment and contribute to the final draft submitted to the Parliament for the consideration.

Finally, in April 2002 the draft amendments were discussed at a Public Hearing held by the Parliamentary Committee for Public Associations and Information Policy Affairs. Counterpart Consortium, including ICNL, conducted a National Advocacy Campaign using a series of roundtable discussions to direct support for the new amendments to Tax code just as the draft was coming to the Floor of the Parliament.

However, not all the proposed changes to the tax code supported by ICNL were included in the amendments and, although this is a step forward, further work on improving the Tax Code and charity legislation is required to fully implement the aims of the reform.

## **Tajikistan**

### *Draft Law “On State Registration of Legal Entities in Tajikistan” Approved by the Lower Chamber of the Parliament*

The new law approved on December 20, 2002 by the Lower Chamber of the Parliament (Majlisi Namoiandagon of the Majlisi Oli) would establish a simplified single registration procedure for both commercial and non-commercial legal entities, if adopted by the Upper Chamber and signed by the President. The new law reduces non-commercial organization (NCO) registration fees, the period for application processing, and eliminates the registration body’s powers to refuse issuing a decision on the registration of an NCO. This law is now in the Upper Chamber of the Parliament (Madjlisi Milli of the Madjlisi Oli) and is scheduled to be approved in April 2003. After which the law will be presented to the Tajik President for signing.

During 2002 ICNL worked closely with the drafters providing them with technical assistance and helping them to make the drafting process transparent and participatory. ICNL experts reviewed and provided recommendations on numerous draft versions of the law and organized seminars and roundtable discussions on the evolving drafts of the law with NGOs, drafters and government officials. Dozens of NGOs contributed to drafting by presenting their comments and participating in discussions of the draft law with the drafters organized by ICNL.

Although there was initially strong resistance from conservative officials at the Ministry of Justice who introduced several restrictive provisions, including a provision requiring yearly re-registration with a state fee payment, technical assistance provided by ICNL and effective advocacy from the NGO community led to the removal of restrictive provisions and the reintroduction of provisions favorable to the development of legal entities in Tajikistan. Also, ICNL worked closely with the drafters to ensure that NGOs’ suggestions and amendments were taken into consideration. ICNL will continue educating parliamentarians and will continue to facilitate a transparent process of discussion of the draft, making sure that NGOs and the public have access to parliamentarians so that their comments are heard. ICNL will monitor this law to ensure that no backsliding occurs as it passes through the Upper Chamber.

### *Draft Law “On Charitable Activity” Approved by the Lower Chamber of Parliament*

The draft of the Law “On Charitable activity” was approved on the second reading at the Lower Chamber of the Parliament (Majlisi Namoyandagon Majlisi Oli of Tajikistan) on February 26, 2003. According to legislative procedure this Law must now be adopted by the Upper Chamber of the Parliament, then signed by the Tajik President and implemented. If enacted, the law would help to improve implementation of the tax code provisions related to tax treatment of charities. Currently Tajik legislation does not provide for a clear definition and a mechanism to distinguish between charities and other NGOs. Thus, the tax code provisions on tax benefits for charities are implemented

inconsistently. The new law would also provide a ground for expanding existing tax benefits to charities in compliance with international good practices.

Over a two year period (2000-2002) ICNL organized trainings and discussions on the draft law “On Charitable activity”. Tajikistan suffers from a lack of information, lack of resources, and limited possibilities for tax benefits for charitable organizations due to the conditions resulting from a semi-war state. Tajikistan will benefit greatly by the adoption of the new law. ICNL provided recommendations on the draft law. In addition, ICNL experts trained NGO representatives and government officials on the international good practices of regulation of NGOs, and in particular charities, and organized several article-by-article discussions of the different variants of the draft law.

However, backsliding still can occur while the law is pending in the Upper Chamber of the Parliament. ICNL will continue educating parliamentarians and will continue to facilitate a transparent process of discussion of the draft.

## C. ACTIVITY OVERVIEW

### **Regional**

#### ***Corporate Philanthropy Initiative in Progress***

In January and February, a team of ICNL of US Chamber of Commerce’s Center for Corporate Citizenship (CCC) catalyzed discussion; brought together corporate, community, and governmental organizations; and helped to clarify the current status of corporate initiatives in these two Central Asian developing economies. The CCC developed a case study on U.S. business and the American Chamber of Commerce in Hungary in order to provide a Central European model, several years in advance in its transition from a controlled to an open market, against which to compare the two Central Asian cases and from which to draw ideas for Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan.

The CCC-ICNL team interacted with approximately 200 companies, non-profit non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and government agencies over the course of this six-month pilot project. They obtained information on corporate citizenship strategies, obstacles and programs from surveys, informal interviews, business meetings, and workshops in Washington, DC; Budapest, Hungary; Almaty, Kazakhstan; and Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan.

Although the business sector in Kyrgyzstan is quite different from that in Kazakhstan, project participants in both countries identified similar obstacles:

- Lack of information about companies and NGO’s, ways to approach the other sector for information and support, and the concepts and best practices of corporate citizenship relevant to the region
- Ineffective or punitive charitable deduction and tax provisions, including value added taxes, and overbearing tax authority requirements and investigations
- Insufficient resources – among them: lack of strong rule of law, technical expertise and financial stability in the business community, particularly for smaller, domestic companies that must struggle to survive

In cooperation with the CCC ICNL began an educational campaign engaging businesses and NGOs through publication of two articles in Investor’s Voice (an American Chamber of Commerce in Kazakhstan publication) popularizing corporate philanthropy (citizenship) concepts, presenting costs and benefits of corporate engagement in local communities and explaining tax incentives and problems for businesses supporting communities and NGOs.

ICNL is following up with a survey to local businesses in cooperation with Counterpart CSSCs in Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan to gather further information that will be useful in planning the next stage of this project.

### ***Central Asia Website (Russian Language)***

ICNL has continued to develop its Russian-language on-line resources. The website now contains general and country-specific publications, a calendar of events, laws from each country relating to NGOs, and links to local partner organizations. For more information, please see [www.icnl.org/car](http://www.icnl.org/car).

### **Kazakhstan**

#### ***Technical Assistance with the draft Law on Social Contracting***

ICNL has been facilitating NGO–government cooperation on drafting legislation “On Social Contracting” and “On NGOs in Kazakhstan.” Formally both NGOs and government representatives constituted a joint Working Group recognized by the Government. However, much more work still has to be done to make sure that the government is taking seriously NGOs recommendations. At the meetings of the drafting group, ICNL explained the problems associated with provisions of this draft law as prepared by MinKIOS.

It is unfortunate, that up until now most comments submitted by NGOs and ICNL have been dismissed. The draft in its current form does not comply with the rest of the legislation of Kazakhstan and with international good practices as it contradicts the legislation on state procurement, does not provide for distribution of government’s support on a competitive, transparent bases, and allows for abuses by government bodies in charge of distribution of these funds. While continuing to educate drafters from MinKIOS, who are primarily in charge of drafting the law, ICNL has been providing assistance to NGOs advocating for improvements in the draft and assisting CAID with developing an alternative draft law. ICNL has been working with other government stake holders which are currently not engaged in drafting, such as the Ministry of Economic Development and the State Procurement Office, who seem to have the real power and interest to either veto the draft law, or to substantially improve it.

#### ***Technical Assistance with the Draft Law on NGOs***

The same government authorized Working Group, which has been working on the Draft Law on Social Contracting, started working on the Draft Law on NGOs. Similar to the drafting process of the Law on Social Contracting, the government does not take seriously NGOs recommendations. However, unlike the Law on Social Contracting, which might eventually result in progressive legislation authorizing government’s funding of NGOs, the draft NGO Law prepared by the Ministry of Culture, Information, and Public Accord (MinKIOS), would restrict activities of Kazakhstan non-commercial organizations, since it would (1) establish new requirements for NGOs; (2) provides authorized government officials with an opportunity to subjectively decide to whom government support shall be granted, which would result in mass abuses; (3) create problems for foreign non-commercial organizations active in Kazakhstan, by limiting the forms of legalization for foreign organizations in Kazakhstan, and imposing burdensome reporting requirements on them; and, (4) create possibility for prohibition of “politically incorrect” organizations, by excluding organizations carrying political and religious activities from the term “NGO”.

ICNL prepared and broadly distributed analysis of the draft NGO law to raise awareness of the potential threat to NGOs, if such a law were to get adopted. ICNL has been providing technical support to international (for example, NDI, OSCE, and UNDP) and local organizations with organizing an advocacy campaign against the draft law.

#### ***Technical Assistance with the Draft Law on Self-Regulating Organization***

ICNL prepared comments to draft law on Self-regulating organizations in Kazakhstan proposed by the Tax Committee of the Ministry of Finance. The comments were prepared following the request from USAID and PRAGMA. Both organizations were provided with ICNL comments on the draft law on Friday, February 28, 2003. If adopted, this law would establish a twelfth legal form of non-commercial organizations in Kazakhstan. With more than eight forms of associations in Kazakhstan, none of which truly reflects international good practices, the draft law continues the bad practice of

drafting new laws to satisfy the current need and/or demand instead of looking to amend existing legislation. ICNL will continue to monitor this draft law.

### ***Two-day seminar on the Elimination of ambiguities and inconsistencies in NGO legislation***

In January 2003, ICNL held a seminar on NGO law. The seminar was well-attended by the Administration of the President, the Ministry of Finance, MinKIOS, members of the Parliament, and NGOs. The seminar allowed gathering legal scholars and practitioners who deal with matters of legislations affecting non-commercial organizations (NCO) and collect their opinions about existing problems in the Kazakh legislation affecting NCOs and possible ways to resolve the problems. Based on the collected proposals the official letters on behalf of the organizers were prepared to be sent to all concerned governmental agencies involved in the process of legislative development. In addition, a book of materials from the Seminar based on reports delivered by participants will be published during May 2003.

### ***Nascent Corporate Philanthropy in Kazakhstan***

American Chamber of Commerce in Kazakhstan Business Roundtable luncheon with U.S. Amb. Larry Napper, Senior FCS Officer Jim Fluker, American Chamber President Martin Quirke and approximately 55 other business, government and NGO leaders. CCC's consultants discussed the business cases for corporate citizenship, and Sandra Willett Jackson presented the context of activities being pursued by other American Chambers in developing economies around the world. Both emphasized the variety of corporate activities – not only philanthropy – and the necessity for candid discussions, clear expectations and accountability from both business and NGO's seeking alliances to address mutual economic and social issues. CCC's consultants also cited specific examples different companies have underway in economies not unlike that of Kazakhstan and facilitated discussion of business motivations, perceived obstacles and benefits from community engagement.

Rotary Club of Almaty luncheon and meeting with about 28 international and local Kazakh business people, and special guests from Rotary Club in St. Petersburg and the Almaty Rotaract (a youth auxiliary). We discussed corporate values, and the role of intermediary organizations like the Rotary Club to motivate, facilitate, cultivate and educate business and community leaders and youth about key corporate values such as service, discipline, integrity, and other norms and behaviors that contribute to good governance and rule of law at the business, political and civil society levels.

Corporate Citizenship Workshop for a mixed group of approximately 32 business, government and NGO leaders. USAID Regional Mission Director, George Deikun, presented USAID's priorities in the areas of corporate philanthropy, civic engagement and three-sector partnerships. He engaged particularly the NGO's in a lively Q and A session about how and with whom to build teams, what USAID's priorities currently are (Global Development Alliance funding, health care, micro-credit, others), and how the workshop participants could develop serious corporate philanthropy activities, which, he stated, is a "personal priority." Participants identified some of the tools they "wished for" to help them build successful business-NGO alliances, including (i) a "clearing house" of information for companies seeking to partner with non-profits and to identify key projects whose funding would be in the best interest of the company; (ii) a general corporate citizenship handbook with more information on how to approach both businesses and NGO's, as well as more specific examples in Kazakhstan, (iii) a guide on tax/legal/regulatory laws, legislation and regulations for companies when working with non-profits, (iv) additional tax and regulatory reform, with suggestions of how to promote this to facilitate public-private-non-profit partnerships.

Diana Brett, Executive Director of the Chamber in Almaty, offered to create a virtual group of those attending the workshop so that the business, NGO and government leaders could keep in touch with each other to future discussions. It may be that the Chamber itself, if there is as much interest in the membership as there seems to be on the board, may form a peer-to-peer networking group on corporate citizenship. ICNL would provide assistance to such initiative.

Please, see also "Regional Activities" above.

### ***Registration Information Provided to USAID Supported Health Program***

On Wednesday February 19, 2003 ICNL made a presentation on matters related to the registration of NGOs in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan at the joint Regional Seminar of Counterpart and “Zdrav Plus” supported through AED. ICNL’s expert presented information about legislative opportunities and forms for the creation of an association of medical information centers in Central Asia.

### ***Programmatic Mentoring Leads to Increased Capacity of Local NGOs***

ICNL worked with CAID to revise its plan for 2003. CAID will concentrate on local capacity building. As part of its capacity building initiative, CAID began conducting NGO lawyers’ club sessions. In these meetings, critical issues related to legislative environment are discussed. CAID plans on building a list of these “informal” members of the lawyers club. In the future CAID will be able to provide other NGOs and government with names of experts in various areas of the law. In addition, CAID will use this informal group to develop two or three “white papers” on various legal topics in 2003.

### ***Internship for Local Law Student***

In December 2002, as part of its local capacity building Central Asia Education Initiative ICNL took on one intern from Adilet School of Law in Almaty. Under supervision of ICNL’s local legal consultant during December 2002 – January 2003 the intern familiarized herself with standards of good-practice in NGO law and conducted legal research on local and international NGO legal issues. The intern has since successfully completed her internship.

### ***Assistance Provided to Thirty-six Local NGOs and International Organizations***

Vsevolod Ovcharenko, Legal Consultant for Kazakhstan, aided forty-two (42) [42 is the number of consultation/contact and 28 stands for number of applicants] local and international NGOs in resolving legal questions and issues. Issues ranged from registration and taxation to dissolution and licensing. Consultations were provided to such organizations and institutions as OSCE, USAID, IREX, PRAGMA Corporation, Canadian Foundation on Human Rights (CAR Office), National Democratic Institute (NDI), Counterpart International, SEAF, INTRAC, Urban Institute Almaty, and local NGOs Zhalgas, ASTRA, Diabetic Association of the Republic of Kazakhstan (DARK), Special Olympics Kazakhstan, Kazakhstan Volunteers Center, Kazakhstan Debate Center, Youth Information Service of Kazakhstan and others. Through these consultations ICNL has been able to identify those areas of law that prove most difficult for NGOs. Follow-on projects are to include workshops on common questions of NGOs and single page fact sheets for NGOs.

### ***Publications***

In connection with various AED funded trainings ICNL’s Kazakhstan office arranged for the publication of the following ICNL materials in Russian language:

1. ICNL Handbook on good practices relating to non-governmental organizations (draft).
2. Model provisions for laws affecting public benefit organizations.
3. Governing of legal status of non-commercial organizations in civil codes of countries throughout the world.

### ***Kyrgyzstan***

B. Amendments to the Tax Code including NGO tax privileges signed into law  
See “Project Impacts” above.

C.

D. ICNL Holds Series of Trainings on NGO Taxation  
Jointly with AED/START Program ICNL held 4 trainings entitled “NGO Taxation and Accounting.” The course consisted of a series of specialized three-day NGO trainings specially designed for NGO participants from all oblasts/regions of Kyrgyzstan including Bishkek.

The importance of such trainings is based on the evidence that many NGOs, particularly in the regions, lack the knowledge about their rights and obligations under the Tax Code and risk significant fines and penalties for non-compliance. The purpose of the course was to examine and discuss tax and accounting requirements imposed by Kyrgyz tax legislation as well as the latest legislative initiatives and the Bill of Amendments to the Tax Code affecting non-commercial and charitable organizations.

Based on the post seminars AED/START questionnaire, the participants were very satisfied with the Training Program since it was directly relevant to their work and they had good opportunities to develop professional linkages, and will be able to apply what they learned at their work.

#### ***Commentary to the amended Law On State Registration of Legal Entities***

In March ICNL finished comments to the newly adopted amendments to the Law “On state registration of legal entities.” The policy of governmental bodies related to re- registration of legal entities, including non commercial organizations, is becoming more restrictive. These amendments passed through the Parliament despite the opposition of the Committee for Public Associations and Information Policies to which ICNL had provided technical assistance. A parliamentary maneuver of bundling these amendments with other proposed amendments allowed the bypassing of the normally controlling committee and the subsequent passage of the amendment. ICNL’s comments focus mainly on the procedures for registration and re-registration of non-commercial organizations as legal entities which allow for a level of discretion on the part of government that could be used to selectively disrupt the activities of certain NGOs. To date, ICNL’s commentary and discussions with NGOs have not revealed any great interest on the part of NGOs to engage in advocacy related to the amended law.

#### ***Corporate Giving Discussed at the Bishkek Rotary Club Meeting***

On February 11<sup>th</sup> Kevin Borrup (ICNL Program Director), Sandra Jackson CCC representative) and Yuri Khvan (ICNL Consultant) took part in the Rotary Club Meeting. The US Ambassador attended and spoke about philanthropy issues. Sandra and Kevin made a brief presentation about philanthropy and corporate citizenship. Rotary members raised interesting questions about corporative giving and practical obstacles. Many businesses also volunteered information about their current philanthropic activities. One conclusion drawn from this meeting and other discussions is that in Kyrgyzstan legislation regulating incentives for corporation that support charities is inadequate.

Please, see also, “Kazakhstan” and “Regional” sections of the Activity Overview above.

#### ***Pro Bono Consultations Provided***

In Kyrgyzstan, ICNL’s legal consultant provided pro bono consultations on issues related to NGO law and the freedom of association to local NGOs and international organizations.

#### **Tajikistan**

“Law on State Registration of the Legal Entities” in Tajikistan Approved by Parliament  
See “Project Impacts” above.

#### ***The Draft of the Law on Charitable Activity Approved by Parliament***

See “Project Impacts” above.

#### ***Technical Assistance with the New Version of the Law on Public Associations***

In the latter part of 2002 the Ministry of Justice requested ICNL to provide technical assistance on information on the Laws on Public Associations from foreign countries. The Ministry of Justice has plans to prepare new drafts of the Law “On Public Association” and the Law “On Political Parties.” ICNL provided the Ministry with all relevant materials from its database.

#### ***Technical Assistance with Legislation on Social Partnerships and Decentralization***

In January, 2003 Deputies of the Parliament Mr. Ismailov Sh. and Mr. Ilolov M. (now the Minister of the Labor) requested aid in the form of information on the decentralization of government structures, partnership of NGOs with government, and NGO taxation. ICNL provided them with materials from ICNL's archives and other information from electronic sources.

***The Roundtable in Dushanbe "Charity in Tajikistan: problems and perspectives"***

On January 21<sup>st</sup> ICNL in together with Deputies of the Madjlisi Namoyandagon Maglisi Oli of Tajikistan (Parliament) and NGO "Society and Law" held a one-day day roundtable for 27 Tajikistan local and international NGO representatives, Parliament deputies, and executive government officials in Dushanbe. The main aim of this round table was providing legal information on charity activity and taxation as well as developing a process to allow for public suggestions to the draft Law "On charitable activity." At this round table participants discussed the registration of charitable NGOs in Tajikistan, their rights and obligations under the law, tax and customs, and other features of local legislation. During discussion on these issues participants determined the practical difficulties of NGO charity activity. The participants also made the following suggestions of to the Parliament: 1) compare the draft of the Law "On charitable activity" with the Tax Code of Tajikistan and change the contradictory points; 2) Cut provisions that repeat the definitions described in the Civil Code and other laws; 3) Add provisions providing tax privileges for NGOs on their income; and, 4) provide VAT and social tax exemptions for charity NGOs.

***NRC-ICNL seminar "Creation, activity and taxation of NGOs"***

At the request of the NGO training Center of the Norwegian Refugee Council, ICNL's local consultant along with 2 trainers from Tajik Ministry on Incomes and Revenues organized a two-day seminar on the theme "Creation, activity and taxation of NGOs". On February 27-28, 2003, eighteen NGO leaders and local staff attended the seminar. The main topic of this seminar was the taxation of and reporting by NGOs. After the seminar participants requested additional such seminars and NRC agreed to support them.

***Social partnership conference (AED, CC, DCSSC, ICNL) in Tursun-zade***

On February 21, 2003, ICNL local consultant Muatar Khaidarova participated at the Social partnership conference, organized by AED, CC and DCSSC in Tursun-zade. About 90 participants, including local government and NGO representatives from different regions of Tajikistan were represented at this conference. At the meeting the State Advisor of the President of Tajikistan Mr. Ibrohim Usmonov made an introductory speech. The ICNL local consultant facilitated at one of the small group discussions. At the same time the ICNL local consultant - Muatar Khaidarova provided participants with the ICNL book on social partnership, the ICNL booklet and newspaper "Sozvezdie", sponsored by ICNL's partner NGO "Society and Law".

***CC and DCSSC roundtable "NGOs and development of the social partnership"***

Muatar as an ICNL expert participated at the CC and DCSSC round table "NGOs and development of the social partnership" on March 19, 2003. She provided information on the legal aspects of the social partnerships according the Tajik legislation.

***NGO Legislation training course at Tajik Slavonic University***

With ICNL technical assistance, the Law Faculty of Tajik Slavonic University began to develop an NGO Legislation training course for Law students. This Course is being taught by Mr. Nasirov Khurshed, a member of ICNL's local partner NGO, "Society and Law".

***Legal Consultations to local and international NGOs***

ICNL provided 34 free consultations to NGOs and international organizations regarding issues of NGO law pertaining to NGO registration and day-to-day operations. These consultations included but were not limited to the following organizations: Counterpart Consortium, DCSSC, NGO "Center on legal education, NGO "Tajtraining"; ABA; Ora International; Scientific-Technical Center NGO "Education for all"; NGO "Initiative"; NGO "Elena"; the International Finance Corporation; International Crisis Group's Association of Politologists; Norwegian Refugee Council; INTRAC;

CHAP program - Mr. Joseph Luke on Tajik legislation on NGO registration and activity; CC-Uzbekistan (Mr. Akmal Rustamov ); CC Kazakhstan; Central Asian Mountain Partnership/Swiss Agency on international cooperation; Khujand NGO "GIVE-AKCENT"; UNDP; and NGO "Sitori Nadjot".

### ***Development of ICNL brochure on Labor Rights***

As a result of many NGO representatives' requests on labor legal questions Muatar Khaidarova, together with Mr. Nasirov Kh. (a member of the NGO "Society and Law"), prepared a new ICNL/NGO brochure on Labor Rights for NGOs. This brochure will be published by the NGO "Society and Law" in the number of 500 copies.

## **Turkmenistan**

### ***Seminar on NGO Legislation held for NGOs in Turkmenbashi***

ICNL held a seminar on "NGO Legislation" in Turkmenbashi for local NGOs. The purpose of the seminar was to educate participants on Turkmenistan legislation governing noncommercial organizations. ICNL's consultant in Turkmenistan, Elena Vasilyeva, made a presentation about the basics of NGO legislation and the reasons governments across the world support the development of a strong non-profit sector. She also provided comparative information on status legislation governing different types of NGOs in Turkmenistan and other countries. Of particular interest to participants were issues pertaining to the regulation of unregistered associations' activity and international experience with unregistered NGOs. Turkmenistan legislation was analyzed in detail and participants discussed the difficulties in becoming registered as a non-commercial organization. Another section of the seminar were dedicated to social partnerships between the government and NGOs, kinds of registration in Turkmenistan (individual enterprises, cooperative enterprises, enterprises of NGO, economical enterprises), registration of foreign technical assistance, and issues of licensing of individual kinds of activity.

### ***ICNL provides technical assistance to Counterpart Consortium Turkmenistan's registration attempt***

During the last quarter ICNL partner took part in the network meetings of Counterpart Consortium twice. ICNL was involved in preparing the charter and other internal documents for Counterpart Consortium.

### ***Round Table (Lebap CSSC, ICNL) in Turkmenabat***

On March, 15, 2003, ICNL in cooperation with the Civil Society Support Center of Lebap velayat, ICNL conducted roundtable at Turkmenabat on NGO Legislation in Turkmenistan at which the following issues were considered: a) Legislation of Turkmenistan regulating NGO's activity; b) Kinds of registration in Turkmenistan (individual enterprises, cooperative enterprises, enterprises of NGO, economical enterprises); c) Registration of foreign technical assistance; d) Issues of license of individual kinds of activity; and, e) Taxation.

### ***Thirty Consultations Provided to International Organizations and Local NGOs***

During the last quarter ICNL's local consultant provided thirty (30) consultations to both international and local NGOs on issues of NGO law. Consultations have included the following organizations: UNHCR, CHAP, Counterpart Consortium; Civil Society Support Center of Akhal velayat; Civil Society Support Center of Lebap velayat; "Medet", "Arzuv", "Yardam", "Red Crescent of Lebap velayat", "Merdjen", "Keik Ocara"; "Aladja"; Club of disabled, "Nargiz", Youth center of Lebap velayat, "Altyn Asyr", "Bard-club", "Idea", "Health", "Amul", "Hemayat" and others. Issues covered by ICNL in these consultations ranged from registration, registration requirements and procedures, taxation, social partnership, licensing to registration of foreign technical assistance.

## **Uzbekistan**

*Methodological Guide on NGO Taxation and Accounting Published Under a Joint Project with OSI*

On March 19, 2003 ICNL and Open Society Institute Assistance Foundation – Uzbekistan, and the Committee of the Oliy Majlis for democratic institutions, nongovernmental organizations and self-governing bodies held a press conference dedicated to the publication of a methodological guide on taxation and accounting of NGOs in the Republic of Uzbekistan. More than 100 books and compact discs were distributed to the participants. This event was widely lighted in many newspapers and TV channels. Akmal Saidov, the Head of the Oliy Majlis’s Committee, representative of the US Embassy, and Kevin Borrup gave speeches during the presentation. During the coming months ICNL will widely distribute this guide in Uzbek and Russian languages both to governmental bodies in charge of NGO legislation implementation and international and local NGOs. The Guide helps NGOs and implementing government agencies to implement tax legislation providing plain language, yet progressive interpretation of tax code provisions affecting NGOs. Because of the involvement of the Parliament and State Tax Committee, the Guide has a semi-legal status and is seen as obligatory for utilization by respective government officials.

***A Series of Seminars on NGO Taxation and Accounting***

ICNL, with support from AED, conducted five (5) two-day seminars in Namangan, Tashkent, Samarkand, Bukhara and Nukus. The target groups of these seminars were leading NGOs possessing active financial activity, including grant programs, and sustainable NGOs. These seminars provided an opportunity to disseminate important information on the issues of taxation of NGO activity and the new standards of accounting. Participants’ recommendations and comments on the NGO Taxation and Accounting manual, presented during the training event, were used by ICNL when finalizing the manual on NGO taxation and accounting. ICNL has received numerous offers to continue seminars when new amendments are made into tax legislation.

*Small Grants on Social Partnership Program Implementation (Joint Project of ICNL and OSI)*

a) Seminar on Corporate Philanthropy and Civil Society

On January 27, 2003 Kevin Borrup and ICNL Partner in Uzbekistan organized a seminar on corporate philanthropy. The seminar benefited NGO winners on small grants program on social partnership. Mr. Borrup led all sessions and ICNL’s local partner covered the legal portion of corporate philanthropy in Uzbekistan. The OSI representatives were delighted with the methods and structure of the seminar. Nurgali Rakhmanov, OSI’s Civil Society Program coordinator has proposed a new small grants joint program on social partnership within which to concentrate on a series of round table on social partnership throughout Uzbekistan.

b) TOT on Social Partnerships

TOT on social partnership took place on January 28, 2003 for the same participants as for seminar on corporate philanthropy. During the TOT participants gained basic knowledge on theory of social partnership, international experience. The expert from Washington, DC (Pavel Smiltnek) spoke on world practice of social partnership legal regulation. Participants were given sample structure of agreement on SP and basic knowledge of legal regulation of SP in Uzbekistan.

***International Seminar On Legal Regulation of Charitable Activity: International Experience Related in Oliy Majlis***

In the light of the adoption of the Law on Charity in the near future, ICNL in collaboration with Committee of Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan on Democratic Institutions, Non-governmental Organizations and Self-governing Bodies conducted in the Oliy Majlis the international seminar On Legal Regulation of Charitable Activity. The heads of the Oliy Majlis’s committees and representatives of leading local NGOs and international donors participated. ICNL expert Pavel Smiltnek presented a speech on international practice with regard to charity laws and the aspects of taxation.

***Round Table on Economic Activities of NGOs***

On February 24, 2003 ICNL and USAID/Central Asia Regional Training Program (“START” Project) in collaboration with Committee of Oliy Majlis for democratic institutions, nongovernmental organizations and self governing bodies, conducted round table devoted to the discussion of economic

activity of NGOs in Uzbekistan. Mr. Saidov, Chairman of the Committee of Oliy Majlis on Democratic Institutions, Non-governmental Organizations and Self-governing Bodies; Jason Compy, Director of Regional Training Program in Uzbekistan, “START” Project”; Dinara Mirzakarimova, Program Specialist, USAID, greeted participants of the round table and determined the goals and objectives of the round table with desired results.

Kevin Borrup and Alexander Galaganov spoke on theory and practical aspects of the legal regulations of NGO economic activity in USA and EU, including CEE. Mr. Abduaziz Azizov, Chief of Legal Department of Ministry of Economy of the Republic of Uzbekistan, spoke on issues concerning the form of NGOs, procedure of their establishment and particular features of economic activity of branches and representative offices of NGOs.

Participants of round-table received detailed answers to their questions regarding economic activity of NGOs in Uzbekistan and its taxation and expressed their own suggestions on improving the legislation and discussed international experience of economic activity of NGOs. Based on the success of the seminar, OSI has proposed to launch a series of seminars on NGO economic activities throughout Uzbekistan in May-June 2003. A separate edition of the quarterly journal of the National Human Rights Center of the Republic of Uzbekistan will be devoted to this event.

#### ***Technical Assistance on the Public Foundations Draft Law***

Oliy Majlis has in its agenda the adoption of the Law on PF in first reading. ICNL has, for the past three (3) months, actively been involved on the drafting process by the request of the Oliy Majlis’s committee. ICNL Partner in Uzbekistan has participated several times in the Hearings of the subcommittee of Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan on the issues to improve the civil society institutes, mass media, protection of human rights and freedoms. These meetings were followed by the special request of the Committee of Oliy Majlis on democratic institutions, non governmental organizations and self-governing bodies to assist in the drafting the Law on PF. Such request was presented as a number of questions arose from the draft Law on PF. ICNL provided technical assistance as needed to the committee. As a result of this effective work, many provisions which are not in conformity with international best practices were eliminated.

After the adoption of the law on PF in first reading, workshops on the PF law will take place in May throughout Uzbekistan. These series of seminars will serve as a Public Advocacy Campaign aimed to create support for this law among officials, NGOs, assuming that the draft law will comply with international good practices.

#### ***Legal Consultations Provided to Twenty-Two Local NGOs and International Organizations***

Alexander Galaganov, ICNL’s Legal Consultant in Uzbekistan, has rendered twenty two (22) local NGOs and international organizations in resolving legal questions and issues. Legal questions and issues provided to these organizations varying from registration and taxation to the reporting. In particular, tax and reporting issues were in demand by many NGOs and international organizations. This has been in result of the publication of the manual on NGO taxation and accounting for NGOs. . Consultations were provided to such organizations and institutions as the ABA CEELI, ACDI/VOCA, USAID, Counterpart Consortium and its CSSCs, CASP, , Urban Institute, OSI, , and local, “Renaissance”, “Soglom Ayol”, “Legal Issues Research Center” and “United Research Center”.

## **D. COODINATION AND COOPERATION**

### **Regional**

#### ***US and International Organizations***

- ICNL worked in close cooperation with Counterpart International and its in-country offices. All ICNL activities have been coordinated with the USAID regional and in-country offices.

- ICNL provided regular updates to other USAID grantees on its activities and plans and developments in the NGO legislation around the region. ICNL also cooperates closely with other international organizations, including OSCE, UNDP, UNHCR, Soros Foundation, NDI, Eurasia Foundation, Aga Khan Foundation, Asian Developing Bank, and other organizations.
- ICNL works in partnership with the Center for Corporate Citizenship of the US Chamber of Commerce based in Washington DC on its corporate philanthropy project. In addition, ICNL's Central Asia office utilized informational resources provided by the Council on Accreditation (COA) based in New York on issues of self-regulation and formal accreditation services for non-profit organizations.

## **Kazakhstan**

### ***US and International Organizations***

- ICNL has provided technical assistance to Barents Group on problems related to NGOs opportunities to employ to full extent the remedies of draft Law “On Micro-credit organizations”.
- ICNL has provided technical assistance and monitoring to the Central Asian Institute for Development (CAID) on issues related to the development of social procurement legislation in Kazakhstan.
- ICNL has provided technical assistance to PRAGMA Corporation in the form of comments to draft law on self-regulated organizations initiated by the Tax Committee upon their request.
- ICNL provides technical assistance to Governmental Working Group drafting Laws “On State Social Contracting” and “On NGOs in Kazakhstan”. ICNL also actively discuss major problems of both laws with the Institute of Legislation at the Ministry of Justice (in fact this organization is responsible for major part of governmental legislative initiatives).

### ***NGOs***

Valentina Sivrukova, President of NGO umbrella organization -- Confederation of Non-Governmental Organizations of Kazakhstan (KNOK); Mancia Kainazarova, Chairperson of the Central Asian Institute For Development (CAID) governing board; Zhanna Nauryzbaeva, Executive Director, CAID; Sholpan Baibolova, CAID governing board member; Vice-President of the Central Asian Foundation for Systemic Research; Natalia Yantsen, President, Tax Standards Formation Foundation; Kuralai Karakulova, ANNOK (Association of Non-Governmental Non-Commercial Organizations of Kazakhstan); Aybek Dumbayev, Director, the Association of the Invalids Organizations "Zhan"; Kayrat Imanaliyev, Chair, Center of handicapped people having higher education “Namys”; Amanbike Yergaliyeva, Chair, Center of support of hearing disabled people “Umit”; Andrey Andreyev, CEO, the NGO "Legal Initiative”; Gulmira Jamanova, Chair, CASDIN; Inessa Franz, Director, Institute for Development Cooperation; Irina Savostina, Chair "Pokoleniye” Pensioners NGO; Roman Podoprighora, Aleksey Zakharov and Alevtina Kuziarina - “Adilet” Higher School of Law; Gulsum Kakimzhanova, Chief Executive Officer – NGO “IRIS”; Galia Omarova, Executive Board Chair, ASTRA (The Agency of Social Technologies and Development); Dmitry Dey, President, Association of NGOs of Kostanay Region of Kazakhstan; Sergey Zlotnikov, CEO of Interlegal and Transparency Kazakhstan; Ninel Fokina, Chairperson of Almaty Helsinki Committee; Evgeniy Zhovtis, CEO of Kazakhstan Bureau for Human Rights; Saken Sabitov, President of Kazakhstan Association of Young Lawyers; Peter An, Executive Director of the Union of German Youth in Kazakhstan, Sergey Guliyev, Executive Director, Decenta Public Foundation (Pavlodar).

### ***Government Officials and Deputies of the Parliaments***

Zharmakhan Tujakbai, Speaker of the Mazhilis; Oralbai Abydkarimov, Speaker of Senate; Sergey Zhalybin, Deputy of Mazhilis, Chairman of Committee on Legislation and Justice-Legal Reform; Irak K. Elekeev, Head of the Mazhilis Office; Beybit Zhusupov, Deputy Head of Senate Office; Tulebek K. Kosmambetmov, Deputy of Mazhilis; Karasay Turysov, Chairman of Committee on Finances and Budget of the Mazhilis; Victor Nikolaevich Vesnin, the Deputy of Mazhilis, Deputy Chairman of Committee on Finances and Budget; Musiraly S. Utebayev, the Senator, Chairman of Committee on

Economy, Finances and Budget of the Senate; Yerlan Zhumagulov, Acting Director of the Legislation Department of the Ministry of Justice; Oleg Ryabchenko, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-Minister of Culture, Information, and Public Accord; Gaziz Telebayev, Head of Department of Internal Policy, Ministry Culture, Information, and Public Accord; Zhan Muratbekov (responsible for updating the State Donor List), Ministry of Economics and State Budget Planning; Nurila Usenova, 1<sup>st</sup> Deputy Head of Tax Committee of the Ministry of Finance; Viktoriya Dudnikova, Deputy Chief of Department of Methodology of the Tax Committee of the Ministry of Finance; Yernat Mazov, CEO of the Institute of Legislation at the Ministry of Justice of Kazakhstan; Ulan Tazhibayev, Chief Specialist of the Institute of Legislation at the Ministry of Justice; Zabira Urazalieva, Deputy Head of Legal Department of the Ministry of Finance; Ravkhat Menseitov Head of Legal Department of the Ministry of Finance; Tagir Sisinbayev, Vice-Minister Finance; Igor Rogov, Head of Legal Department, Administration of the President; Talgat Donakov, Deputy Head of Legal Department, Administration of the President.

## **Kyrgyzstan**

### ***US and International Organizations***

ICNL local partner Yuri Khvan has become well-known among NGOs, donors, parliamentarians and government officials who consider him as a legal expert on the issues concerning the noncommercial sector. ICNL's effective performance and its activity for these years have not passed unnoticed with the result that many NGOs, international organizations, embassies regularly seek ICNL's assistance on different legal aspects and handling various issues.

ICNL partner maintains constructive and cooperative relations with the following organizations: USAID; COUNTERPART KYRGYZSTAN; EURASIA FOUNDATION; USIS; ABA/CEELI; NDI; IFES; BARENTS GROUP; AED/START; OSI; OSCE; UNHCR; ADB; UNDP; FREEDOM HOUSE; ARD/CHECCHI; URBAN INSTITUTE; INTERNEWS.

### ***NGOs***

Irina Ryzhykh, NGO - Chamber of Tax Consultants; Nina Petrovna Vekua, Foundation for the Research of Legal Problems; Ainura Orosolieva, Chairman of the Fund of Legal Initiatives; International Center Interbilim; Edil Baisalov, Leader of the Coalition of NGOs for a Civil Society; Svetlana Bashtovenko, Leader of NGO "UMUT", Olga Djanaeva, Leader of NGO "Alga"; Akhmad Madiyev, Leader of NGO "Center for Public Policy"; Elvira Elibezova, Leader of NGO "Center of Public Opinion Study and Forecasts"; Oleg Kim, Director, Public Foundation "The Legal Clinic," Dinara Chochunbaeva, President of Central Asia Crafts Support Association, Roza Aitmatova, Leader of Women Support Center, Banur Abdieva NGO "Leader".

### ***Government Officials and Deputies of the Parliaments***

Abdygany Erkebaev, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of the KR Parliament, Kabai Karabekov, Parliamentarian and Chairman of the Committee for Public Associations and Information Policies; Akylbek Japarov, Parliamentarian and Chairman of the Tax Committee; Oksana Malevannaya, Parliamentarian and Chairwoman of Human Rights Committee; Alefina Pronenko, Parliamentarian and Chairwoman of the Committee on Competition and Protection of Entrepreneurial Rights; Alisher Sabirov, Parliamentarian and Chairman of the Subcommittee on Religion; Omurbek Tekebaev, the Deputy of the Legislative Assembly, Ishenbai Kadyrbekov, the Deputy of the Legislative Assembly, Murat Ismailov, Deputy Minister of Finance; Adylbek Kasymaliev, First Deputy Director of the Revenues' Committee; Arstan Berdaliev, expert of Social Policy Department of the President's Office, Oktyabr Abdykaimov, Head of Department inspectorial-organizational work of the Revenue's Committee.

## **Tajikistan**

### ***US and International Organizations***

ICNL's partner worked in close cooperation with USAID, Counterpart Tajikistan, and other USAID grantees. As an example, in January, 2003 ICNL provided NDI with its commentary on the draft Law "On Charitable organizations" ICNL also cooperates closely with other international organizations, including OSCE, UNDP, UNHCR, Norwegian Refugee Council, World Bank, Asian Developing Bank, Aga Khan Foundation and other organizations. OSCE, UNDP, and UNHCR offices in Tajikistan regularly involve Muatar in NGO development and law reform projects affecting NGOs. ICNL also cooperates extensively with the national government (ministries and parliament) and local governmental authorities. ICNL's local consultant is also regularly invited to and participates in international conferences involving issues related to the work of NGOs.

### ***NGOs***

Muatar Khaidarova, ICNL's partner and Chairperson of Society and Law; Elena Chastukhina-Dushanbe Civil Society Support Center; Zarina Khalikova – NRC NGO Support Center; Guldjahan Bobosadikova, President of the Association of Women with Higher Education; Dilbar Khalilova, Director of NGO "Fidokor"; Nigina Bakhrieva, Bureau on Human Rights; Association of Young Lawyers; Matin Mirzoev, Director of NGO "Intelcom"; Kanoat Khamidova, Chairperson of the League of Women Lawyers; Gennadii Vafiev, Vice-Chairman of the Association of Lawyers of Tajikistan; Union of Lawyers; Nurinniso Rustamova, Director of the Dushanbe branch of the NGO "Association of Business Women of Tajikistan"; Nuriddin Khalilov – Center on Human Rights; Mavjuda Rahmanova- Refugee Children and Vulnerable Citizens.

### ***Government Officials and Deputies of the Parliaments***

Sanovbar Khamidova, Chairwoman of the Parliamentary Committee on Budget, Finance, and Taxation of the Majilisi Namoyandagon of Majilisi Oli; Djumaboi Sanginov –Deputy of the Parliament, Shavkat Makmudovich Ismailov, Chairman of the Parliamentary Committee on Law and Order and Defense; Abdumanon Kholikov, Chairperson of the Parliamentary Committee on Legislation and Human Rights; Abdullo Oripov - Deputy of the Parliament ( Madjlisi Oli); Laili Babaeva, deputy of the Parliament, Committee on International Relations, Public Associations and Information; Tatiana Bozrikova, Advisor to the President; Bakhtiar Sultanov, Vice-Minister of State Revenue and Fees; Tojeniso Azizova, Deputy Minister of Justice; Sumangul Tagaeva, Head of the Department on Registration of Public Associations of the Ministry of Justice; Jumakhon Davlatov, Head of the Legal Department of the Tajikistan Government; Rasul Abdulloev, Chief Legal Expert of the Ministry of Justice; Tokhir Mirzoev – Vice-Mayor of the Dushanbe Local Government; Faridun Usmonov –Economical Advisor of the Mayor of the Dushanbe Local Government.

## **Turkmenistan**

### ***US and International Organizations***

ICNL partner worked in close cooperation with USAID, Counterpart Turkmenistan and other USAID grantees. ICNL provided regular updates to other USAID grantees and international organizations on its activities and plans.

### ***NGOs***

Zalina Rossoshanskaya, NGO "Bosfor"; Hatydja Orayeva, NGO "Merden"; Center for Pedagogy and Psychology; Ayna Rakhmanova, NGO "Annageldy"; Durdy Mametyazov, NGO "Ikar"; Nabat Babyeva, NGO "Hemayat"; Club of students "Adalat"; Roza Kuzakhmedova, "Keik Okara", Zoya Prous, NGO "My right"; Larisa Gujalova, NGO "Women's Center of scholars on economy", Andrei Aranbayev, "Catena", Farid Tukhbatulin, Dashoguz Ecological Club", Olga Shevchenko, "Family. Mercy. Health", Elena Abdalova, Information Legal Center of Lebap velayat.

### ***Government Officials and Deputies of the Parliaments***

Abram Mogilevsky, Scientific Secretary of the National Institute of Democracy and Human Rights; Aman Achilov, Deputy Hakim of Lebap Velayat, Head of the Department on Public and International

Organizations; Batyr Abdyev, Chief Specialist on Legal Issues, Lebap Velayat; Akja Nurberdyeva, Head of Mejlis Committee on Inter-Parliamentary and International Relations.

## **Uzbekistan**

### ***US and International Organizations***

- ICNL Partner Alexander Galaganov maintains constructive and cooperative relations with various NGOs and international organizations operating in Uzbekistan. These include ABA/CEELI, UNDP, the Soros Foundation, Eurasia, DFID, USAID, ACDI/VOCA and other organizations that have an active interest in ICNL's legislative projects.
- ICNL regularly cooperates with the National Center for Human Rights of Uzbekistan and the Institute of Monitoring of the Current Legislation of Oliy Majlis (Parliament) in the development of legislation affecting the NGO sector in Uzbekistan.
- In cooperation with the Open Society Institute and Tax committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan, ICNL published 2000 copies of the manual on NGO taxation and accounting in Uzbek and Russian as well as 1000 CDs. Please refer back to the “Activity Overview.”
- ICNL together with Committee on democratic institutions, non governmental organizations and self-governing bodies of Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan, Legal Issues Research Center and financial support of the Open Society Institute launched its project aimed to development of charity law.
- ICNL together with Committee on democratic institutions, non governmental organizations and self-governing bodies of Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan organized the international seminar on legal regulation of the charitable activity and round table on economic activities of NGOs.
- By the special urgent request of the Committee on democratic institutions, non-governmental organizations and self-governing bodies of Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan ICNL provided comprehensive review of the international practice of legal regulation of PF and commentary to draft law on PF.

### ***NGOs***

Gulnara Dosumova, Head of the NGO “Renaissance”, Nukus, Karakalpakstan Region; Shamil Asyanov, Chairman of the Legal NGO Legal Issues Research Center; Ilkhom Karimov, Chairman of the Board, NGO “Tashkent Business Club”; Ravshan Khakimov, Chairman of Law NGO “Uzbek Association of International Law”; Akhtam Shymardanov, Head of the NGO “Chirchik dare”; Tadjikhon Saidikramova, Director of NGO “Association of Business Women of Uzbekistan”; Gennadiy Figlin, Chairman of the Public Experts Council; Sergei Kan, Director, NGO United Research Center.

### ***Government Officials and Deputies of the Parliaments***

Akmal Saidov, Parliamentarian, Chairman of the Committee of Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan, on Democratic Institutes, NGO and Self-Governing Bodies and Director of the National Center for Human Rights of Uzbekistan; Shavkat Galiakbarov, Deputy Director of the National Center for Human Rights of Uzbekistan; Jalloliddin Abdusatarov, Head of the NGO Bureau, Ministry of Justice; Shukhrat Chulliev, Head of the Legal Department, Ministry of Justice; Akhtam Toursunov, Director, and Mikhail Yusupovich Gasanov, Deputy Director of the Institute of Monitoring of the Current Legislation of Oliy Majlis (Parliament); Sayera Rashidova, the Authorized Person for Human Rights (Ombudsman); Rustam Bakhramov, Head of the Department on of Tax Methodology Improvement, State Tax Committee of Uzbekistan.

## E. LEVERAGING

### **Tajikistan**

#### ***Draft of the New ICNL brochure on Labor rights for NGOs***

With many NGO representatives' requests on labor legal questions Muatar Khaidarova together with Mr. Nasirov Kh., the member of the NGO "Society and Law" prepared the draft of the New ICNL/NGO brochure on Labor rights in NGO. This brochure will be published by the NGO "Society and Law" on 500 copies. (50\$).

#### ***NRC-ICNL seminar "Creation, activity and taxation of NGOs"***

With the request of the NGO training Center of the Norwegian Refugee Council sponsored the two-day NRC-ICNL seminar on the theme "Creation, activity and taxation of NGOs". At the seminar on February 27-28, 2003, eighteen NGO leaders and local staff participated. (300\$).

### **Uzbekistan**

Please see the "Activity Overview" above in which ICNL and Soros Foundation partnered in a USD\$14,000 grant project to the publication of the manual on NGO taxation and accounting.

On the application from ICNL, OSI in Uzbekistan has granted USD\$8,120 for the working group on charity law development.

## **GRANT-RELATED ACTIVITIES**

## **Kazakhstan**

### **CSSC Institutional Grants**

*Based on the additional funds provided by USAID for implementation of the Program of Civil Society and NGO Development in the Central Asian Region the Kazakhstan Hub office made a decision to continue partnership development with 7 Civil Society Support Centers and service delivery to NGOs and communities:*

#### **1. Social Corporative Fund ZUBR, Oskemen**

\$ 3,250.00 is granted for:

- Strengthening of the organizational capacity;
- Community Mobilization program;
- Service delivery.

#### **2. Entrepreneurship Development Agency SMEDA, Aqtobe**

\$ 3,491.73 is granted for:

- Strengthening of the organizational capacity;
- Community Mobilization program;
- Service delivery.

#### **3. Association of Qostanai Oblast NGOs, Qostanai**

\$4,641.21 is granted for:

- Strengthening of the organizational capacity;
- Community Mobilization program;
- Service delivery.

#### **4. Qaraghandy Regional Ecological Center ECOCENTER, Qaraghandy**

\$ 4,589.57 is granted for:

- Strengthening of the organizational capacity;
- Community Mobilization program;
- Service delivery.

#### **5. Nuclear Tests Victims' Union IRIS, Semey**

\$ 3,947.56 is granted for:

- Strengthening of the organizational capacity;
- Community Mobilization program;
- Service delivery.

#### **6. Civil Society Support Center ASTRa, Astana**

\$13,853.00 is granted for:

- Strengthening of the organizational capacity;
- Community Mobilization program;
- Service delivery.

#### **7. Association of Non-Profit Organizations ZHALGHAS-Counterpart, Almaty**

\$ 10,005.00 is granted for:

- Strengthening of the organizational capacity;
- Community Mobilization program;
- Service Delivery.

### **Focus Grants**

*Based on the additional funds provided by USAID for implementation of the Program of Civil Society and NGO Development in the Central Asian Region the Kazakhstan Hub office made a decision to continue partnership development with 4 Focus organizations:*

#### **1. National Consumer League of Kazakhstan (NCLK), Almaty**

\$ 2,750.00 is given for:

- Organizational development;
- Conducting trainings on consumers' right protection;
- Provision of legal consultations.

## 2. Young Leaders Association (YLA), Almaty

\$ 2,750.00 is given for:

- Organizational development;
- Conducting Training of Trainers (TOT);
- Conducting seminars for deputy directors of schools.

## 3. Diabetes Association of the Republic of Kazakhstan (DARK), Almaty

\$2,750.00 is given for:

- Conducting OD assessment in the regional NGOs,
- Consulting on diabetes issues;
- Web-site design;
- Publication of informational bulletin.

## 4. Confederation of Non-Governmental Organizations (CNOK), Astana

\$ 2,750.00 is given for:

- Organizational development;
- Drafting and lobbying the Law on *State Social Delivery* in the Parliament of the Republic of Kazakhstan;
- Conducting a round table with the members of the Governing Board of CNOK, NGOs, deputies of the Parliament and other state officials to discuss key issues concerning a draft Law on *State Social Delivery* and its following realization;
- Organization of the National Forum of NGOs.

## Kyrgyzstan

### CSSC Institutional Grants

Based on the additional funds provided by USAID for implementation of the Program of Civil Society and NGO Development in the Central Asian Region the Kazakhstan Hub office made a decision to continue partnership development with 7 Civil Society Support Centers and service delivery to NGOs and communities:

CSSCs	Grants, approved in Q1- 03	Sum, approved in Q1-03, USD	Grants awarded in 2001-2003	Sum, approved in 2001-2003, USD
BS	0	\$0.00	4	\$16,316.00
BT	1	\$1,300.00	8	\$15,902.36
JA	0	\$0.00	14	\$44,147.60
KB	0	\$0.00	4	\$8,709.61
KE	0	\$0.00	17	\$33,546.14
KN	0	\$0.00	7	\$18,471.48
KR	4	\$3,498.45	13	\$21,083.03
NO	1	\$1,620.00	22	\$50,906.00
NR	0	\$0.00	10	\$20,211.14
OS	0	\$0.00	17	\$43,256.10
TA	1	\$794.34	7	\$19,322.27
CC	0	\$0.00	2	\$5,551.45
<b>Total</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>\$7,212.79</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>\$297,423.18</b>

## **Community Action Grants**

### **Batken CSSC**

#### ***1. Kok-Tash CBO, Kok-Tash village, Batken Rayon, Batken Oblast***

\$1,300 for creating the goat farm in order to build capacity of the community in developing income-generating activities. The project envisions that profit to be made from selling wool, milk and offspring will form the community foundation, and cash flows will be controlled by the council of elderly people of the village. . The grant funds cover purchase of goats. The community contribution is equal to \$249 in the form of fodder, labor and veterinary support. The grant was approved for funding by the Local Grant Review Committee on December 8, 2002 and confirmed by the Bishkek Grant Committee on January 24, 2002.

### **Karakol CSSC**

#### ***1. Kyzyl-Suu CBO, Kyzyl-Suu village, Jety-Oguz Rayon, Issyk-Kul Oblast***

\$705.59 for creation of a small bakery to develop joint income generation activities. The grant money will be used to purchase the construction materials. The community and the local authorities undertake obligations to provide total of \$286.52 in the form of labor, part of construction materials and transports. The grant was recommended for funding by the Local Grant Review Committee on December 12, 2002 and confirmed by the Bishkek Grant Committee on January 24, 2002.

#### ***2. Tepke CBO, Tepke village, Ak-Suu Rayon, Issyk-Kul Oblast***

\$300 for creating a cow artificial insemination service in the village aimed at developing the quality line breeding of cows, and ultimately at raising the capacity of the community in joint income generating activities. The grant funds allocated for the purchase of semen. The community contribution is estimated at \$674. The grant was recommended for funding by the Local Grant Review Committee on December 12, 2002 and confirmed by the Bishkek Grant Committee on January 24, 2002.

#### ***3. Tasma CBO, Tasma village, Tup Rayon, Issyk-Kul Oblast***

\$1,822.86 for creation of cow farm to build capacity of the community in generating income. It is expected that the CIG member will keep goats and after a year owners will give goats to other members of the community. The grant funds cover cost of livestock and transports. The contribution of the community and local administration makes \$650 in the form of fodder, transports, medication and labor. The grant was recommended for funding by the Local Grant Review Committee on December 12, 2002 and confirmed by the Bishkek Grant Committee on January 24, 2002.

#### ***4. Tasma CBO, Tasma village, Tup Rayon, Issyk-Kul Oblast***

\$670 USD for installation of a bactericidal unit in the water supply system of the village to provide population with access to clean potable water, which meets health standards, for the purpose of reducing diseases among people. The grant funds earmarked for the purchase of the bactericidal unit. The community contribution is estimated at \$203 in the form of materials and labor. The grant was recommended for funding by the Local Grant Review Committee on December 12, 2002 and confirmed by the Bishkek Grant Committee on January 24, 2002.

### **Nookat CSSC**

#### ***1. Nookat Jashary CBO, Nookat, Nookat Rayon, Osh Oblast***

\$1,620 to establish public Internet access resource center based in the Youth Volunteer Center. The resource center will operate under control of the public commission. Grant funds are earmarked for purchase of 2 computers, 1 printer and some furniture. The CBO contributes \$2,700 in the form of labor of center members for 6 months, 1 computer, cost of Internet connection, office rent and furniture. The grant was approved by the Local Grant Committee on November 25, 2002 and confirmed by the Bishkek Grant Committee on January 24, 2002.

### **Talas CSSC**

#### ***1. Kairat CBO, Ogombaev Village, Talas Rayon, Talas Oblast***

\$794.34 to conduct a forum for communities to define common problems of rural communities in Talas Oblast and develop joint measures to address the problems. It is expected, that the project will help to develop networking between CBOs in Talas Oblast in addressing needs of the communities. The grant funds cover purchase of stationary and cost of videotaping and media outreach. The community contribution makes \$39.96 in the form of labor. The grant was approved by the Local Grant Review Committee on March 6, 2003 and confirmed by the Bishkek Grant Committee on March 20, 2003.

## **Tajikistan**

### **NGO Institutional Support Grants**

Three new grants were given this quarter:

#### **1. IG of Community Luliho, Varzob, Central Oblast.**

\$ 3,500.00 for implementing the CAG project *Water – Source of Life*. Grant funds will be spent for constructing a water supply system for 1224 inhabitants of *Luliho* Community. The community members will contribute labor and some construction materials. One of objectives of this project is establishing a water-users association.

#### **2. IG of Community Mehvar, Bohtar District, Khatlon Oblast.**

\$ 1,956.00 to lay 700 meters water pipeline and construct 10 water-taps in Mehnatobod Community, Bohtar District. The number of beneficiary: 2385. The community members and the partner NGO *Hamroz* will contribute labor and construction materials.

#### **3. IG of Community Dagana, Kulyab District, Khatlon Oblast.**

\$ 3,484.00 for repairing a school to improve study conditions. The grant funds are allocated for construction materials. The community and local authorities' contribution amount is \$ 933,00 in the form of labor and transports. The number of beneficiary is 4,450 members of *Dagana* community.

## **Turkmenistan**

### **CSSC Institutional Grants**

On March 2003 two Civil Society Support Centers in Dashoguz and Lebap were awarded with Institutional Grants and disbursed the first tranche:

**\$ 8,188.00 – Institutional Grant TU 2003-001** for Lebap CSSC implementation of the Program of Civil Society and NGO Development in the Central Asia region.

**\$ 8,359.00 – Institutional Grant TU 2003-002** for Dashoguz CSSC implementation the Program of Civil Society and NGOs Development in the Central Asia region.

### **NGO Support Grants**

From January to March 2003 final tranches of 7 Support Grants totaling **\$ 1 350.56** were given and the following grants were successfully completed: NGO “Family, Mercy, Health”, NGO “Bosfor”, “Zemin-Lalesi”, “Mulkdaryn Ecologiya Mekdebi”. Project aims improving sanitary-ecology situation and development of private sector in Collective farm “S.A. Niyazov” (Gavers), “Dashoguz Nature Protection Society”, “IKAR, “Merdjen”, “Center of Women-Journalists” near Women’s Union named after Gurbansoltan edje.

### **Discretionary Grants**

On February 2003 Initiative Group “Tebigatyn khovandary, “Healthy family “Initiative Group” Altyn Cheshme, successfully completed three Discretionary Grants, which were awarded on December 2002.

### **Community Action Grants**

On January-March 2003 Counterpart Turkmenistan were awarded 4 CAG grants with the final tranches with total amount \$ 280.03. The follow grants were completed by **Economic Society “Sarygamysh”** of S.Turkmenbashy etrap and **“Altyn asyr” Initiative group** of Geokja village of Rukhabat etrap of Ahal velayt.

Also in this quarter, the CT grant team was working on monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of Support, CAG grants in Balkan, Ahal, Lebap, Dashoguz velayats.

## Uzbekistan

### CSSC Institutional Grants

3.	Public Initiatives Support Center, Samarkand	Grant for premises	\$17,000.00
4.	Civil Society Development Center, Kokand	Long-term agreement for extension	\$4,917.00
5.	Samarkand Public Initiatives Support Center	Long-term agreement for extension	\$5,068.00
6.	Namangan Civil society Development Center	Long-term agreement for extension	\$4,998.00

### Community Action Grants

1.	Initiative Group "Meliboy Ota", Fergana oblast, Meliboy Ota village*	Providing 31 yards of Meliboy ota village with drinking water	\$5,014.15
2.	Association “Iqtisodchi Ayol”, Samarkand*	Creating center for women support with profession	\$2,430.63

### Monitoring and Evaluation of CAG Projects

#### Tashkent

##### *Precautions of AIDS and drug addiction among the youth and teenagers on the principle “equal to equal” (Evaluation)*

At the duration of the project Uzbek Association of Reproductive Health involved 503 young boys and girls at the age of 14 to 25 instead of 180 planned. In the Association was created Youth Committee. A team of young trainers meet regularly to exchange information and discuss occurred problems, issue youth newspaper, informational leafs, and to prepare for the coming seminars. Instead of 8 planned under the project informational leafs, there were issued 11. Unplanned youth newspaper “Our Generation” has started to be issued. The project implementers achieved involvement of the state structures into the project. It was recommended to introduce a journal to register. This journal would be useful to trace the main problems of the youth. Also, it is necessary to develop sustainability plan.

#### Kokand

##### *Renewal of the infrastructure of schools and their adoption to the needs of disabled children (Monitoring)*

During the project implementation Initiative group of Parents and Teachers of Makhallas Nos. 55 and 61 met some problems and difficulties. Bad weather made the work harder. Therefore it was decided to postpone painting works till weather get warmer. Another problem was with increase of prices for the construction materials. This problem was solved by investments from school, community and

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\* grants were transferred from MIP due to lack of finances in the budget of MIP

*Save the Children* Organization. By mobilizing people for the advocacy campaign it became possible to abolish the decision of the local government to take a part of the school for the policlinics. During monitoring it was noticed that majority of children do not hold on sanitarian norms in using toilets. It was recommended to create Public Committees in each school to secure project results. It is also necessary to conduct explanatory works on sanitary norms with children.

***Establishment of the gas line to the Makhalla “Yukori Buston” of the Village “Pakhta Buston” (Monitoring)***

Makhalla activists and the project implementer - Initiative Group “Pakhta Buston” – noticed that during the planning materials for arch were not taken into consideration. 500 meters of pipe were spent for this work that resulted in 500 meter gap to lock a circle. There are needs in additional funds for some other works. It was recommended to partly collect money from residents of the Makhalla, apply to the Counterpart to get a permission to use saved from the project money for purchasing additional pipes and search possibility for additional financing.

***Water is the source of life (Monitoring)***

Under the project implemented by the Initiative Group “Yangi Khayot” a bore-hole was drilled by the sub-contractor, pump and transformator were established. After all, work process have been stopped because of earthing of the pump and high heating of the transformator. Another reason for holding up the process was non-fulfillment of obligations taken by Khokimiyat of Dangarinskiy rayon as well as community. During the meeting with the community it was also noticed that the community does not trust to the leader of the Initiative Group. The motivation for distrust caused by fact that all the purchases and financial operations was made by the leader himself. It was recommended to involve Makhalla activists into the financial and organizational matters; to select the responsible person to collect money from the community for purchasing pipes; and finally, to finish the project in cooperation with the Khokimiyat.

***Providing 31 yards of the village “Meliboy ota” with drinking water (Monitoring)***

Initiative Group “Meliboy Ota” met the problem with lack of finances for pump and tower – it was not considered in budget. Collective farm is ready to take these expenses, but for now it does not have funds in its account because sowing period had started. It was recommended to develop accurate estimate of the materials and works and to search for other sources of funds. It is also necessary to start digging the trench and to install pipes.

**Namangan**

***Creation of the Women Center “Shark Guzali” in Makhalla “past Rovuston” of Namanganskiy rayon of Namangan Oblast (2 Monitorings)***

The main problem of the Initiative Group *Shark Guzali* was that the building given under the project is very old, cold, there is lack of drinking water and low pressure of gas necessary for cookery. It was recommended to mobilize community people for establishing drinking water and gas in the building; to attract local department of Labor Agency for further activities; and develop business plan for realization of made products.

***Handicraft study Center “School of crafts” (Monitoring)***

Initiative Group *Makhorat Maktabi* noted two problems during implementation of the project. These are cramped premises for practical exercises and increased prices for sewing equipment. For solving the first problem heads of Makhallas *Baynalminal* and *Sufizoda* participating in the process of project monitoring recommended the project implementer to move the Center into the free spacious premises located on the territories of their Makhallas. The second problem has been already solved before monitoring by attracting additional resources from stakeholders. The CSSC Coordinator recommended to attract city department of Labor Agency into the project activity.

***Covering the roof and current repair of the premises of the specialized boarding school No.13 for disabled children (Monitoring)***

The project implementer, which is Public Center *UMR* of Andijan Oblast, noted that there were no problems except bad weather conditions caused difficulties in covering the roof. Activity under the project was going on according to the work plan. Recommendation to invite stakeholders to the events conducted in the school to establish closer social partnership.

***Creation of the women Center “Umida” (Monitoring)***

Initiative Group *Umida* faced with problems during project implementation, such as lack of heating and gas. It was recommended to attract local department of gas supply to establish gas system in the Center, and jointly with the community and stakeholders seek for opportunities to build autonomous heating system.

***Creation of the Center for youth “Khilol” (Monitoring)***

Initiative Group *Khilol*, project implementer, noted difficulty in cramped premises for practical exercises and lack of heating in the rooms. The recommendations are to attract city department of heating in establishing autonomous heating system in the Center, and together with polyclinic, where the Center is located, find opportunities of reconstruction of the premises to be more spacious.

**Samarkand**

***Providing water to 537 households of Makhalla “Bakht” of Gallyaralskiy rayon of Djizak Oblast (2 Monitorings)***

The project implemented by the Initiative Group “Madad” is going on successfully. All the actions are implemented in time due to high involvement of the community and local government. The only recommendation was given to the project implementer, is to strengthen the organization’s image in the community. Community has to be more thankful to the enthusiasm of Initiative Group rather than to Counterpart.

**Bukhara**

***Ways to solve community problems in Navoyi Oblast by PRA method (Evaluation)***

There were some difficulties identified during evaluation of the project implemented by the Center of Social Partnership *Tashabbus*. It was related to achieving the project sustainability. There are recommendations offered in: to build a capacity of Makhalla Committee members in problem solving through providing them trainings (fundraising, advocacy, etc) with attraction of the funds from the *Makhalla Foundation* and Labor Agency; to develop and activate informational system to disseminate information on opportunities of Makhalla Committee development and resources of problem solving; 3) to begin work on establishing Public Foundation to solve local problems.

***City Crisis Center functioning (Monitoring)***

The activity under the project implemented by the Initiative Group of City Crisis Center was finished according to the project work plan. In order to be able to serve bigger number of victims there is a need in expansion of the premises. Due to this problem, it was recommended to work more closely with state structures namely City *Khokimiyat*, which is responsible for providing additional premises. Also, there were recommendations on strengthening financial sustainability of the organization, achieving stable project activity and developing public relations activities.

***Traditional handicrafts is the help to rural women (Monitoring)***

The activity under the project implemented by the *Rural Population Support Center* was finished according to the project work plan. In response to the problem of expanding and embroidering workshop and providing more unemployed women with working places, there was meeting held with *Khokim* of *Shafirkanskiy rayon*. Center have achieved in signing agreement on provision of the additional room and passing nearby building to the Center.

**Nukus**

***Creation of the system of patronage service in Makan Kenes No.11, of Nukus-city (Monitoring)***

Branch of the NGO “Uzbek Association of Reproductive Health” almost implemented all the project objectives to the moment of monitoring. The only thing left was print out necessary quantity of units

of the booklet for volunteers. A team of volunteers in the quantity of 20 people finished their works under the project. 7 of these volunteers became members of the Association. At the same time leaders of the Association when observing the work of volunteers attracted some of them into other projects implemented by the Association.

***Construction of toilets in Makhallas “Ibn-Sino”, “Navoyi” and “Bustan” (Monitoring)***

Initiative Group “Bustan” is implementing the project according to the schedule. It is necessary to notice that involved into the project residents from three Makhallas express great interested and actively involved in in the project implementation. Initiative Group cooperated with state structures very actively and positive interrelations between two sides are noticed.

***Increasing the status of a rural woman in Karauzyakskiy rayon od Karakalpakstan (Monitoring)***

At the moment of project monitoring according to the action plan Initiative Group “INTA” purchased all the necessary equipment, gathered a group of 30 girls and trained them already. CSSC Coordinator noted that premises where girls have been trained is very warm and accurate. Project implementation process is marked as satisfactory.

***Our Home (Monitoring)***

Initiative Group “Komunal” is implementing the project according to the schedule. However, during the realization of the project one objective was changed. So, instead of repairing heating system it was decided to pave space around the building with asphalt. In the premises individual boilers will be placed, which is cheaper then paying for heating. Initiative on this change came from the community and this issue was discussed on the joint meeting where Initiative Group, Makhalla Committee and community itself participated. At the moment of monitoring the project is on the final stage of its implementation.

***Urgench***

***Unemployment problem solving in Makhalla “Kalta Minor” of Khivinskiy rayon (2 Monitorings)***

The project of the Initiative Group “Asalarichi” is implemented according to the Action Plan. At the moment of monitoring there was training going on bee-keeping for unemployed people. The project implementer faced with main problem that was related to creation of the database of unemployed people in Makhalla. It was due to the lack of technical devices and trustworthy information on the quantity of unemployed people. Thanks to the Makhalla Committee it became possible to define the most precise quantity and to compose the list. Makhalla Committee was fully involved into the project promoting it at the meetings in Khokimiyat and on the local TV. Evaluation of the project showed that it was implemented successfully and on time. The IG is in the process of registration of the organization as NGO.

***The pilot project on complex approach use in environmental actions in Makhalla “Kiyot” of Shavatskiy rayon (Monitoring)***

According to the plan the Center of Ecology and Health purchased all the necessary equipment and conducted 15 seminars on careful treatment to the environment. 385 Makhalla residents passed these seminars. People have been mobilized by Makhalla Committee efforts to the improvement of the Makhalla territory.

## **TRAINING MATRIX**

<b>Kazakhstan</b>						
<b>#</b>	<b>Module</b>	<b># of workshops</b>	<b># of NGOs</b>	<b># of Participants</b>	<b># of Men</b>	<b># of Women</b>
1.	NGO & Community	1	1	11	6	5
2.	Project Design	2	14	37	7	30
3.	Strategic Planning	2	15	52	12	40
4.	Fundraising	1	20	29	1	28
5.	Association Development	1	16	20	2	18
6.	Advocacy	1	21	22	2	20
7.	Financial Sustainability	1	15	20	4	16
8.	Human Resource Management	1	12	22	6	16
9.	Governance	2	26	42	13	29
10.	Constituency Building	1	15	21	4	17
11.	NGO Newsletter Development	1	17	24	6	18
1.	Participatory Monitoring and Evaluation	1	14	21	3	18
2.	Membership Development	1	9	14	4	10
	<b>Total</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>195</b>	<b>335</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>265</b>
<b>Kyrgyzstan</b>						
<b>#</b>	<b>Module</b>	<b># of workshops</b>	<b># of NGOs</b>	<b># of Participants</b>	<b># of Men</b>	<b># of Women</b>
1.	NGO & Community	1	21	23	16	7
2.	Project Design	22	312	442	207	235
3.	Strategic Planning	1	6	14	6	8
4.	Fundraising	2	22	47	27	20
5.	Association Development	2	43	50	22	28
6.	Advocacy	1	2	25	11	14
7.	Financial Sustainability	1	14	22	17	5
8.	Social Partnership	1	6	13	7	6
9.	Governance	1	22	24	10	14
10.	Constituency Building	1	23	23	11	12
11.	Newsletter Development	1	5	12	0	12
12.	PCA	16	241	302	134	168
13.	Volunteer Management	2	16	33	15	18
14.	Microbusiness	1	2	20	11	9
15.	Membership Development	1	11	18	8	10
	<b>Total</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>746</b>	<b>1068</b>	<b>502</b>	<b>566</b>

<b>Tajikistan</b>						
#	Module	# of workshops	# of NGOs	# of Participants	# of Men	# of Women
1.	NGO & Community	2	11	36	7	29
2.	NGO Management	1	5	18	16	2
3.	Project Design	2	13	31	9	22
4.	Fundraising	3	23	42	13	29
5.	Team Building/Conflict Resolution	1	1	18	0	18
6.	Social Partnership	3	6	50	22	28
7.	Training Techniques and Methodology	1	7	18	9	9
8.	Volunteer Management	7	86	98	34	64
9.	PCA	2	2	37	27	10
10.	PM&E	2	29	35	16	19
	<b>Total</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>183</b>	<b>383</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>230</b>
<b>Turkmenistan</b>						
#	Module	# of workshops	# of NGOs	# of Participants	# of Men	# of Women
1.	NGO & Community	2	21	30	15	15
2.	NGO Management	1	19	24	10	14
3.	Project Design	2	16	34	10	24
4.	Fundraising	1	11	16	2	14
5.	Financial Sustainability	1	7	13	5	8
6.	Social Partnership	1	11	17	5	12
7.	Facilitation Skills Development	1	14	22	8	14
8.	NGO Newsletter Development	1	10	19	9	10
9.	Coalition Development	1	9	13	2	11
10.	Special Trainings (SOC)	6	62	95	33	62
	<b>Total</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>283</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>184</b>
<b>Uzbekistan</b>						
#	Module	# of workshops	# of NGOs	# of Participants	# of Men	# of Women
3.	NGO & Community	6	49	133	71	62
4.	NGO Management	2	20	33	16	17
5.	Project Design	6	54	99	33	66
6.	Strategic Planning	3	29	53	15	38
7.	Public Education through the Media	2	26	32	6	26
8.	Advocacy	3	36	48	19	29
9.	Financial Sustainability	1	13	13	4	9
10.	Human Resource Management	3	24	50	16	34
11.	Team Building/Conflict Resolution	1	12	23	9	14
12.	Social Partnership	1	12	16	7	9
13.	Governance	1	5	13	2	11
14.	Volunteer Management	2	21	35	9	26
15.	PCA	4	31	58	27	31
16.	Facilitation Skills Development	1	12	18	7	11
17.	Training Techniques and Methodology	1	14	20	7	13
18.	Special Trainings (SOC)	3	41	69	26	43
	<b>Total</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>399</b>	<b>713</b>	<b>274</b>	<b>439</b>