



Enhancing Human Security in the Former Nuclear Test Site of Semipalatinsk

Annual Progress Report #2

Covering the period of 01 January 2009 – 31 December 2009

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I. Summary

Benefiting country	Kazakhstan
Location	East-Kazakhstan, Pavlodar and Karaganda Oblasts
Title of the project	Enhancing Human Security in the Former Nuclear Test Site of Semipalatinsk
Duration of the project	01 January 2008 – 31 October 2010
UN organization responsible for management of the project	UNDP Kazakhstan (Administrative Agent)
UN executing partners	UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA, UNV
Non-UN executing partners	Semey city Akimat
Total project cost	\$1,978,698
Reporting period	01 January 2009 – 31 December 2009
Type of report	Annual Progress Report #2
Date of submission	31 December 2009

Abbreviations and Acronyms

Akim	Village/district leader, town/city mayor, provincial governor
Akimat	Council/Administration (of village, town, city or province)
BP	Better Parenting
CBO	Community-Based Organisation
CFC	Child-Friendly City
ECD	Early Childhood Development
EKO	East-Kazakhstani Oblast
HCR	Healthy Child Room
HRBAP	Human Rights-based Approach
IUD	Intrauterine Device
IUNV	International United Nations Volunteer
KZT	Kazakhstan tenge
MDG	Millennium Development Goals
MoES	Ministry of Education and Science
MoH	Ministry of Health
MoLSP	Ministry of Labour and Social Protection
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
NUNV	National United Nations Volunteer
Oblast	Province
PHC	Primary Health Care
PMPC	Psychological, Medical and Pedagogical Consultation
Rayon	District
RBB	Results-based Budget

RBM	Results-based Management
RK	Republic of Kazakhstan
SME	Small and Medium Size Enterprises
SMUS	State Medical University of Semey
SSMC	Semey State Medical College
SSPI	Semey State Pedagogical Institute
TWG	Technical Working Group
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNV	United Nations Volunteers
UN CT	United Nations County Team
WHO	World Health Organization
YFS	Youth-Friendly Services

Executive Summary

In 2008, UNDP together with UNICEF, UNV and UNFPA started a joint three-year programme "Enhancing Human Security in the Former Nuclear Test Site of Semipalatinsk". The UN agencies involved have divided the areas of responsibility according to specific comparative advantages, and have ensured compatibility and coordination in a common effort to face the multi-sectoral nature of the challenges in the region.

Overall, the objectives set by UNICEF, UNFPA, UNV and UNDP for implementation in 2009 were met. All components of the project are on track to implement all the initially envisaged activities. They are also on track to achieve their objectives. All activities and achievements are shown in the results section of the report. Two Project Board (PB) Meetings took place in May and in November 2009. The Project Board Members (PBM) reviewed and commented on Annual Work Plan and budgets in order to ensure projects' activities adherence to the project document and workplan. Review of projects' progress/achievements and challenges and provision of advice to ensure efficient and timely execution of the projects' activities was also performed by the PBM.

The mid-term evaluation confirmed that the project is highly relevant to address the problems of the Semipalatinsk area. While past donor interventions have rightly aimed to deal with the most urgent environmental and medical concern, the project complements these interventions through a long term development approach. The project precisely addresses the root causes of the development problems of the Semipalatinsk area, namely: capacity, public service delivery, business initiative, community mobilization and resources. This is why the UN-supported initiative is highly relevant and timely, although its resources are limited compared to the scale of the problems at hand.

Goal 1 - Health component - to ensure access to quality basic health and social services for vulnerable groups (UNICEF and UNFPA):

UNICEF

Based on the environment enabled during the first project's year for the technology transferring to the local health, educational and social welfare facilities with the establishment of sustained bodies to oversee the process UNICEF continued addressing gaps in the service delivery infrastructure and local capacities in the delivery of preventive services in the second year of the project implementation.

In 2009 UNICEF contributed to the improvement of medical services provided by local partners at two healthy child rooms, a family support centre, four child development rooms and two centers providing youth-friendly services.

Consensus with the local authorities to set up a multi-sectoral model ensuring access to quality basic health and social services for vulnerable groups was achieved by signing the Memorandum of Understanding.

Almost 350 health professionals, social and educational workers have increased their knowledge and received present-day methodical materials on applying effective perinatal and early child care and development methods, providing timely support to children with development delays and strengthening care practices of families, health and psychosocial counseling of adolescents, youth and families, including involvement of volunteers.

Exchange of good practices between South-Kazakhstan Oblast and East-Kazakhstan Oblast on the coordination models of the ECD/BP programmes at local level, the structure of training center and functions of trainers in rural areas and involvement of Academia into the process of incorporating international standards into the curriculum was established. Some 4,100

adolescents and young people received improved youth-friendly services from international YFS Summer Camp in Saint-Petersburg.

Continuing support of local authorities and local partners UNICEF was focused on the establishing of baseline data for further programmatic interventions in the region and assessment of the on-going ones; specific recommendations were formulated regarding:

- Budgetary aspect of formal care in Kazakhstan,
- Gate-keeping functions improvement;
- Pedagogical-Medical and Psychological Commission roles and functions;
- Perinatal care in EKO;
- Care for Development practices;

Development of Child-friendly city model in Semey and Ust-Kamenogorsk

UNFPA

UNFPA in collaboration with UNICEF have trained and provided with training materials 46 national obstetricians-gynaecologist, neonatologists and midwives in a five days duration workshop on integration of WHO advocated effective perinatal technologies, including the interventions on sexually transmitted infections and HIV/AIDS, 6 obstetricians - gynaecologists were trained at the training on adolescents reproductive health in Astana, 20 local health professionals from central, peripheral warehouses were trained and provided CDs with installed CHANNEL software's at three days duration workshop on logistic management information system, 5 organizations representatives of youth civil society were trained at the workshop in Shymkent on sexual reproductive health of young people, including issues on mobilization of resources, 20 local civil society organizations representatives were trained to advocate family planning services

The evidence based medicine resource centre designed for obstetricians and gynaecologists of Semey region was presented to 50 healthcare managers by Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology of Semei State Medical University.

Three leading obstetricians-gynaecologists including chief specialist of Departments for Healthcare of Eastern – Kazakhstan oblast and Semey city and head of Department for Obstetrics and Gynaecology of Semei State Medical University of completed 4 days duration study tour to Moldova and thus raised their awareness of best practices of regionalization of obstetrics care and perinatal health technologies; 50 information boards with full set of detailed WHO guidance on the management of labour and complications of pregnancy and delivery were developed and installed in maternity houses of the region making the updated reference materials available to health professionals. About 4000 copies of educational and informational materials for pregnant women distributed. The end of year meeting of key stakeholders of Reproductive Health component of the Joint UN Project in Semei conducted to consider mid-term evaluation report and the working plan for 2010, the resolution with recommendations of the meeting distributed.

Goal 2 - Economic component - to build capacities for entrepreneurship and business skills, and provide modalities for generating economic and employment opportunities (UNDP):

UNDP

UNDP together with its microfinancing partner, the Fund for financial support of agriculture, has established five focal points: 1. Semey city, covering ZhanaSemeysky rayon; 2. Beskaragay village/Beskaragay rayon; 3. Karaul village/Abaisky raoyon; 4. Kainar village/Abbralinsky rayon; 5. Koktobe village/Maisky rayon. Since January 2009, the focal points have provided business consultations on various business issues for about 600 rural entrepreneurs. The Focal points have conducted 41 seminars for about 534 people from five raoyons on microcrediting, microleasing and business management.

Four three-day trainings were organized by UNDP for 80 people, including city and rural entrepreneurs, unemployed, rural households, local administration, focal points. The seminars were in Russian and Kazakh languages.

33 microcredit projects were selected from 300 applications, approved and resources advanced (as of April 2009, 100,000\$). 14 out of the 33 micro-credits were allocated for animal-breeding, 4 projects on crop raising and 15 others financed micro-enterprise activities such as opening a public bath, a bakery, a petrol station, purchasing equipment for small furniture production, equipment for the production of pavement tiles. In October, monitoring visits of microcrediting projects were performed. Monitoring report prepared, best practices published and are to be distributed during seminars in 2010.

The Fund received from UNDP 100,000\$ for the microleasing programme. The Fund published newspaper announcements in local newspapers about availability of funds and main microleasing rules and conditions. The info was also shared via consultations of focal points, during seminars, via local authorities. The first Microleasing selection committee took place on 26 November 2009. The members of the committee include the National Project Director, UNDP staff and the Fund experts. Microleasing programme was drafted by the Fund, recommendations received from an international microleasing expert as well as from an independent expert of mid-term evaluation of the project. The programme was adopted by June 2009. Max microleasing loan was fixed at 7,000\$ at 9.5% per year.

Goal 3 - Social component - to mobilize communities and support NGOs and CBOs in providing community services and in acting as agents of change within society (UNDP and UNV):

UNDP/UNV

In April 2009, UNDP/UNV Small Grants Mechanism was finalized. Based on the project's socio-economic researches and the seminar-questionnaire forms, social priority areas were specified. Maximum size for a small grant – 3,000\$. Main Application requirements – NGO should involve initiative groups as project partners, a project should be approved by the villagers, own contribution to the project. Final selection approval was done by the majority of voices of the Small Grants Committee, which includes the National Project Director, UNDP and UNV staff, representative of an NGO. 44 small grants project proposals were received. 13 were approved by the Small Grants Committee (UNDP/UNV contribution – 39,900\$). Monitoring visits performed, best practices published and to be distributed during seminars in 2010.

International UNV was recruited and started working in Semey city as of 01 April 2009. Three National UNVs were recruited and started working in Semey city in March 2009. The Volunteers provide day-to-day consultations and seminars on various social issues, including youth initiatives, access to water, health issues and environment problems for local project staff, initiative groups, NGOs and local authorities. In addition to planned activities 3 trainings for 60 people were initiated and conducted on beneficiaries' requests. The trainings included such topics as "Social Project Development", "Mobilization of Volunteers" and "Fundraising, Co-financing and Partnership".

Two seminars in Semey city and three seminars in rayons, both in Russian and Kazakh languages, were conducted for 142 representatives of local government, initiative groups and NGOs. Main topics included: humanitarian and social mandate of NGOs, social project development, environment, poverty reduction and gender equality.

In September, a seminar on village development plan/strategic planning was piloted in Shulbinsk village. Representatives of Akimat, business, NGO and initiative groups, developed a plan, which will be presented to the villagers and then sent for approval for the local budget financing.

II. Purpose

The goal of the project as a whole is to alleviate social suffering among the vulnerable groups in the Semipalatinsk region in order to overcome the ecological, health, psychosocial and humanitarian effects of the Cold War. This project will particularly enhance the economic, health, environmental and community security as well as reduce social tensions to prevent potential conflicts. The goals, objectives, outputs and activities are designed to allow:

- Vulnerable families to benefit from raised living standards and quality health and psychosocial support services
- Decrease infant, child and maternal mortality and improve health status of young people
- Enhance and empower civil society and local ownership in order to prioritize people's needs and implement sustainable community initiatives
- Enhance community and resource mobilization and volunteerism to form self-help groups and associations in conjunction with local authorities to undertake small scale projects for improved living standards
- Create markets in rural areas to benefit the poorest through indirect support, namely empowerment and expanded access to financial services

With regard to this vision, three different goals have been formulated following specific sectoral demands:

Health Component (UNICEF and UNFPA):

GOAL 1 - Health and Social Services: to ensure access to quality basic health and social services for vulnerable groups

OBJECTIVE 1.1 By end 2010, 50 % of women of reproductive age and newborn babies of the Semipalatinsk region will receive quality perinatal care support services

OBJECTIVE 1.2 By end 2010, children of 0-3 years of age from 20,000 families living in rural areas of the Semipalatinsk region will benefit from better early childhood development practices

OBJECTIVE 1.3 By end 2010, 10,000 young people of the Semipalatinsk region will enjoy youth-friendly psychosocial and health services

OBJECTIVE 1.4 By end 2010, at least 5,000 vulnerable families in the Semipalatinsk region will benefit from social counseling and family support services

OBJECTIVE 1.5 By end 2010, local Government and NGOs of the Semipalatinsk region will be able to better plan family-based and child-focused social policies at local level

EXPECTED OUTPUTS:

- 1.1 A pool of obstetricians, gynaecologists, midwives, neonatologists and respective health managers (at least 67%) is enabled to provide quality perinatal services

- 1.2 Sustainable regulatory framework for provision of quality perinatal services is in place
- 1.3 At least 900 primary health care workers (doctors and home visiting nurses) are able to counsel families with children at 0-3 in respect to early childhood development
- 1.4 Enabling regulatory environment for strengthening existing home visiting system for families with children at 0-3 is established
- 1.5 Managers and staff of youth-friendly psychosocial and health services are able to provide quality counselling in respect to young people's sexual, reproductive and psychosocial issues
- 1.6 Regulatory framework for provision of quality youth-friendly psychosocial and health services is in place
- 1.7 The results of piloting in the Semipalatinsk region are used as evidence-based advocacy for nation-wide replication of youth-friendly services
- 1.8 Service providers/social workers effectively support families and enable children to grow up in the family environment
- 1.9 Local government are able to effectively apply Human Rights Based Approach and Results-Based Management in assessment, planning and delivery of social services, taking into account special needs of vulnerable families
- 1.10 Local government will have knowledge and instruments on the management of effective approaches to convergent services improvement (health, social protection and education) and monitoring of the Convention on the Rights of Child
- 1.11 NGOs are able to monitor the quality of service delivery and advocate equity access
- 1.12 Local authorities will ensure the delivery of social sector services according to the developed standards

Beneficiaries:

- Newborn, young, women, rural households, health workers

Economic Component (UNDP):

GOAL 2 – Economic development: to build capacities for entrepreneurship and business skills, and to provide modalities for generating economic and employment opportunities

OBJECTIVE 2.1 By end 2010, 30% rural entrepreneurs are better able to understand and exploit economic opportunities through access to financial markets, information and training

OBJECTIVE 2.2 By end 2010, 150 rural households will benefit from microcredit and microleasing services

EXPECTED OUTPUTS:

- 2.1 Business Advisory services provided to rural entrepreneurs
- 2.2 Access to microcredit and microleasing services expanded into rural areas

Beneficiaries:

- Rural entrepreneurs, women, vulnerable households, unemployed

Social Component (UNDP and UNV):

GOAL 3 – Social infrastructure: mobilizing and empowering communities, promoting volunteerism and supporting NGOs/CBOs in providing community services and in acting as agents of change within society

OBJECTIVE 3.1 By end 2010, 1500 local community members will benefit from initiatives by NGOs/CBOs resulting from training and grant distribution

OBJECTIVE 3.2 By end 2010, 60 self-help groups and associations will be engaged in voluntary action to support small-scale local initiatives

EXPECTED OUTPUTS:

- 3.1 Transparent grant mechanism for NGOs/CBOs established in cooperation with local authorities
- 3.2 Volunteerism-based mechanisms mobilized to contribute to community goals

Beneficiaries:

- NGO/CBOs, vulnerable households, local government

RELEVANCE ON ATTAINMENT OF HUMAN SECURITY

Kazakhstan has increasing development divisions and raising inequality, with rural poverty incidence being nearly three times as high as urban. Strengthening human security in the most vulnerable parts of the country could prevent escalation of social exclusion in Kazakhstan. This requires a multi-sector approach including improved health services to promote universal access to basic health care, realization of minimum living standards and enhanced local capacity and promotion of partnerships with civil society groups and NGOs.

An inadequate level of living standards, lack of social services and opportunities for income generation, especially in rural areas around Semipalatinsk, highlight multi-sectoral nature of the challenges faced by people living in the region:

- Health and social services (lingering health consequences of radiation, as well as declining health services);
- Environment (ecological consequences of nuclear testing);
- Economic development (collapse of local economy and lack of new economic opportunities);
- Social infrastructure (lack of social infrastructure, lack of social empowerment).

Geographically an intervention in Semipalatinsk is justified by the severe condition of the region where 468 nuclear tests – including 125 above-ground tests – were conducted. The international community and the UN General Assembly highlight the priority of interventions in the region.

A broad range of interconnected issues, namely Health and Social Services, Economic Development and Social Infrastructure are addressed by this project proposal. The approach thereby proposed implies a comprehensive programming focused on enhancing human security by reducing vulnerability, improving delivery of social services, strengthening civil society participation and improving the institutional capacity of the Semipalatinsk region. The project outcomes clearly state that the beneficiaries are vulnerable groups that are currently excluded

from active participation in the society - parameter a (IV.1) and *a*, *d* and *e* (IV.2) defined in the UNTFHS Guidelines.

Along with directly benefiting those particularly vulnerable families by improving living standards and better quality health and psychosocial support services, the project aims at building the capacity of local authority and civil society to identify and monitor the indicators on basic survival, development, protection and participation needs of families. Key milestones to foster the good governance and participatory development are the improved knowledge and skills on results and human rights-based management in planning and delivery of social services.

The approach aimed at empowering local communities and enhancing their mobilization will be harmonized with activities to strengthen the local government capacity in coordination and planning of public spending, service delivery and poverty reduction.

This framework is relevant as per parameters *b*, *c* and *e* defined in the UNTFHS Guidelines (IV.1).

A special attention will be given to facilitating accountable, transparent and open decision-making and programme implementation. As mentioned in the introduction the project focus on the areas neglected by existing programmes and projects, indeed this project is clearly complementary to the Government Programme for Semipalatinsk.

Rationale

Previous efforts in the Semipalatinsk region have achieved development results that will be built upon to help local actors develop partnerships to solve their still-severe problems. In the Government's Semipalatinsk Relief and Rehabilitation Programme, it is recommended that 78 per cent of total resources donated by the international community focus on longer-term efforts such as building capacities and empowering institutions and civil society groups that are dealing with the humanitarian and social effects of the nuclear testing.

The project aims at translating the basic principles of the Human Security concept into concrete projects through ensuring a rights-based approach that leads towards achievement of the MDGs, and uniting and coordinating efforts of local authorities, civil society and donor community to achieve jointly identified objectives. The proposed project fits squarely within Recommendations number 5, 6 and 7¹ of the report of the Commission on Human Security, Human Security Now (2003).

MAIN IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS

The main UN executing partners are the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the United Nations Volunteers Programme (UNV). The main non-UN executing partners are Semey city Akimat and East-Kazakhstan Oblast Akimat.

¹ Recommendation 5: Encouraging fair trade and markets to benefit the extremely poor (including strengthening social institutions to reach the vulnerable and the extreme poor).

Recommendation 6: Providing minimum living standards everywhere.

Recommendation 7: According high priority to universal access to basic health care (including community-based health initiatives).

III. Results

Health Component (UNFPA):

Objectives	Outputs	OVI	Progress	Recommendations/ comments
1.1. By end 2010, 50% of women of reproductive age and newborn babies of the Semipalatinsk region will receive quality perinatal care	1.1.1. A pool of obstetricians, gynaecologists, midwives, neonatologists and respective health managers (at least 67%) are enabled to provide quality perinatal services	<p>Number of national Obstetricians-Gynaecologists trained in family planning</p> <p>Number of contraceptives distributed</p> <p>Number of national obstetricians-gynaecologist, neonatologists and midwives trained to implement WHO advocated effective perinatal technologies</p> <p>Number of maternity houses fully equipped with facilities to implement effective management of delivery</p> <p>Number of copies of educational and informational materials for pregnant women distributed</p>	<p>Totally 20 local health professionals from central, peripheral warehouses were trained and provided CDs with installed CHANNEL software's at three days duration workshop on logistic management information system.</p> <p>Activity was implemented in the year 2008.</p> <p>UNFPA in collaboration with UNICEF have trained and provided with training materials 52 national obstetricians-gynaecologist, neonatologists and midwives were trained on different issues.</p> <p>Activity was implemented in the year 2008.</p> <p>About 4000 copies of educational and informational materials for pregnant women distributed 50 information boards with full set of detailed WHO guidance on the management of labour and complications of</p>	

		<p>Availability of resource centres for evidence-based medicine</p> <p>Number of obstetricians-gynaecologists trained to apply evidence-based principles to perinatal care</p>	<p>pregnancy and delivery were developed and installed in maternity houses of the region making the updated reference materials available to health professionals.</p> <p>The evidence based medicine resource centre designed for obstetricians and gynaecologists of Semey region was presented to 50 healthcare managers by Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology of Semey State Medical University.</p> <p>Three leading obstetricians-gynaecologists including chief specialist of Departments for Healthcare of Eastern - Kazakhstan oblast and Semey city and head of Department for Obstetrics and Gynaecology of Semey State Medical University of completed 4 days duration study tour to Moldova and thus raised their awareness of best practices of regionalization of obstetrics care and perinatal health technologies.</p>	
	1.1.2. Sustainable regulatory framework for provision of quality perinatal services is in place		The analytical report on efficiency of integrated reproductive health and family planning technologies qualities in Semey region developed.	
			December 14, 2009, at the Semey State Medical University was held the regional meeting on the outcome of the interventions to promote better reproductive health	

			in a joint project.	
1.4. By end 2010, at least 5,000 vulnerable families in the Semipalatinsk region will benefit from social counseling and family support services	1.4.1 Service providers/social workers effectively support families and enable children to grow up in the family environment		25 local civil society organizations representatives were trained to advocate family planning services and on sexual reproductive health of young people, including issues on mobilization of resources.	

Health Component (UNICEF):

Objectives	Outputs	OVI	Progress	Recommendations /comments
1.1 By end 2010, 50% of women of reproductive age and newborn babies of the Semipalatinsk region will receive quality perinatal care	1.1.1. A pool of neonatologists and respective health managers (at least 64%) are enabled to provide quality perinatal services	Increased number of newborn babies of the Semipalatinsk region receiving quality perinatal care support services	17 neonatologists (all women) of Semey city and project's target rural districts (trained at UNICEF/UNFPA five-day training on effective perinatal care, incl. management of women and infants with HIV/AIDS and STI) started providing improved services for women and children of the region; training was based on WHO "Effective Perinatal Assistance and Care" training package, Guidelines of WHO/UNICEF/UNFPA "Pregnancy, Childbirth, Puerperal Period and Neonatal Care: Guide for Clinical Practice", etc. Resources of WHO Reproductive Health Library, regular reviews of Cochrane Library were used as well as national evidence based guidelines (Implementation of effective technologies in	Capacity of local trainers were assessed by UNICEF international consultant: total improvement index was from 37% to 72%; Following the course results, the participants developed and presented their own action plans on implementing the proposed strategies of effective perinatal care at their maternities. The current problems were summarized by the consultant based upon discussions of the main aspects of perinatal care with the participants: not all recommended effective perinatal techniques were implemented; maternities

			provision of care for newborns, Almaty state postgraduate institute for doctors).	equipped with very expensive high-technology facilities, but personnel were not trained on how to use it; national protocols have some inaccuracies and lacking some practical questions; lack of regional approach to the perinatal care etc.
	1.1.2. Sustainable regulatory framework for provision of quality perinatal services is in place		Perinatal care assessment was conducted by State Med. University of Semey with UNICEF support and presented at local and central authorities (Round Table with involvement of EKO Health authorities and meetings with the Ministry of Health's representatives on 18-20 November 2009).	The findings: the main challenges of the improvement of perinatal care provided to women and infants are: no plans for improvement based on the problems identified at the EKO maternities; effective perinatal technologies not fully introduced even in the city hospitals, quality of perinatal care not monitored properly at regular basis; knowledge and capacity of trainers, neonatologists and pediatricians need to be reinforced on provision of basic newborn care and resuscitation; poor regionalisation of perinatal care in the whole region results in high infant mortality which can be prevented.
1.2. By end 2010, children of 0-	1.2.1. At least 900 primary	Number of families with children of 0-3	240 pediatricians and patronage nurses from Abay, Beskaragay,	

<p>3 years of age from 20,000 families living in rural areas of the Semipalatinsk region will benefit from better early childhood development practices</p>	<p>health care workers (doctors and home visiting nurses) are able to counsel families with children at 0-3 in respect to early childhood development</p>	<p>age living in rural areas of the Semipalatinsk region benefiting from better early childhood development practices</p>	<p>Zhanasemey, Abraly rural districts and Semey and Kurchatov cities got knowledge and methodical materials on early children care, development and better parenting.</p> <p>Exchange of good practices between SKO and EKO on the coordination models of the ECD/BP programmes at local level, the structure of training center and functions of trainers in rural areas and involvement of Academia into the process of incorporating international standards into the curriculum was established.</p>	
	<p>1.2.2. Enabling regulatory environment for strengthening existing home visiting system for families with children at 0-3 is established</p>		<p>WHO Child growth and development standards were adopted for Kazakhstani context and submitted to the Science Department of the Ministry of Health for final approval prior to its printing and distribution among health workers.</p> <p>Care for Development programme evaluation contributed to the assessment of capacity of pediatricians and patronage nurses built within previous and current UNICEF interventions in the region, helped to establish baseline data on care for child development, undertake analysis of knowledge, skills, practices of parents, revision of</p>	<p>Some recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Nationalize Care for Development; -Regular Monitoring; -Advocacy strategy for provincial level decision-makers; - More focus on promotion of Nutrition issues; - Integrate efforts for special needs of children across Health, Social

			<p>policies, regulations and service delivery patterns; identify gaps, strengths, weaknesses and opportunities.</p> <p>The findings were discussed and recommendations were developed at national level (Round Table on country's Care for Development strategies). Chief pediatrician of Semey region became aware of the experience in South Kazakhstan by visiting colleagues in Shymkent and apply it there.</p>	<p>Welfare, and Education Ministries;</p> <p>- A sub-regional meeting hosted by the Parliament to share the results of these studies and plan for Care for Child Development would help address problems of sustainability.</p>
<p>1.3. By end 2010, 10,000 young people of the Semipalatinsk region will enjoy youth-friendly psychosocial and health services</p>	<p>1.3.1. Managers and staff of youth-friendly psychosocial and health services are able to provide quality counselling in respect to young people's sexual, reproductive and psychosocial issues</p>	<p>Number of young people of the Semipalatinsk region enjoying youth-friendly psychosocial and health services</p>	<p>Managers of two centers providing youth-friendly services (YFS) raised their knowledge and familiarized with international experience on services for young people (international YFS Summer Camp in Saint-Petersburg, May 2009); Some 4,100 adolescents and young people received improved youth-friendly services learnt from international YFS Summer Camp in Saint-Petersburg; they also participated in regular YFS-based and school-based workshops (HIV/AIDS and STE, smoking, alcohol and drugs, TB and other infections prevention, healthy nutrition, healthy life style etc.).</p> <p>Range of capacity building exercises for staff of the centers has been included into the working plans of</p>	<p>Training consisted of the following sessions: organization of YFS, volunteers as</p>

			<p>UNICEF partners which have extensive experience on YFS (training of Semey YFS staff by Astana based YFS “Demeu” took place on 24-26 August 2009); Participants - 38 Semey YFSs’ staff, Med. University teachers, YFS’ managers, psychologists, volunteers and social workers have increased their knowledge on development of YFS strategy and its implementation, including involvement of volunteers.</p> <p>Recommendations were made by Demeu experts regarding the structure of Semey YFSs, roles and functions of their staff, organization of their work and use of local trainers' potential for training of other specialists etc. In December 2 Semey polyclinics providing youth-friendly services and supported by UNICEF provided psychological, medical, legal and social counselling services for 200 young people of Semey, including via hotline. Trainings on reproductive and psychosocial health, legal protection and healthy life style promotion were organized by Semey YFSs in rural areas. Information materials on the above mentioned issues were distributed among the target audience - young people. Moreover, the round table</p>	<p>one of the main YFS components, peculiarities of adolescent’s age (reproductive age and counseling) and basics of neuro-linguistic programming. Needs in the additional trainings on effective communication, counseling of adolescents and youth, risk behavior prevention (unwanted pregnancy, STE, HIV/AIDS), family planning, main strategies of YFS, skills of adolescents health advocacy were expressed.</p>
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			aimed at ensuring the intersectoral approach to prevention of drugs use among young people was held in Semey. Several events were conducted in frames of the month on HIV/AIDS prevention: trainings, newspaper article contest and others, including involvement of volunteers from Semey institutions and high schools.	
	1.3.2. Regulatory framework for provision of quality youth-friendly psychosocial and health services is in place		Implementation of the Law on special social services enhanced by increasing capacities of 37 social workers, psychologists, doctors, teachers of Semey State Ped. Institute and State Med. University of Semey; Lessons learnt from the YFS and social work trainings documented and recommendations for improvement were discussed with YFS managers and personnel.	Training was targeted on social workers hired and paid from state budget under the law on special social services, and also for psychologists, doctors, teachers of Ped. Institute (where the social worker speciality was launched starting from this educational year) and SMUS. Capacity of participants regarding the legislative base on social work and role of the social work at health facilities etc. was poor. Some recommendations on further social work development in Semey were made by Demeu staff.
	1.3.3. The results of piloting in the Semipalatinsk region are		Training of youth facilitators from all KAZA oblasts (including young people from EKO) took place in Almaty in June; then these young	

	used as evidence-based advocacy for nation-wide replication of youth-friendly services		people conducted focus-groups in their oblasts concerning vital problems of youth; Youth Forum, where all these issues will be presented by youth was held in December in Astana.	
1.4. By end 2010, at least 5,000 vulnerable families in the Semipalatinsk region will benefit from social counseling and family support services	1.4.1. Service providers/social workers effectively support families and enable children to grow up in the family environment	Number of vulnerable families in the Semipalatinsk region benefiting from social counselling and family support services	<p>Inclusion of Semey children with special needs into pre-school education increased by establishing of 4 child development rooms with counseling functions in kindergartens an SSPI.</p> <p>Draft recommendations on the improvement of gate-keeping functions, individual care plans, and needs assessment were developed as a result of Gate-keeping practices mission to EKO.</p> <p>Recommendations for the improvement of Pedag-Med-Psycholog. Comission in Semey were made.</p> <p>Social work faculty at the Semey state pedagogical institute (one of the UNICEF's main partner) in order to systematically train social workers in the Semey region was launched;</p> <p>Findings of the evaluation of budgetary aspect of formal care in Kazakhstan were shared with the local authorities and at the International Child Care Forum in Bishkek.</p>	<p>Guides for play rooms operation, counseling and interaction with children were developed by UNICEF local partners (SSPI).</p> <p>2 EKO representatives took part in the social services standards workshop</p> <p>Recommendations primarily focused on prevention of child abandonment in maternity wards, redirecting children from institutions into family-based care, revision of guardianship and</p>

			<p>tutelage departments' roles in the gatekeeping.</p> <p>Participants from SSPI took part in the Conference on inclusion of children with special needs jointly organized by Ministry of Education and Science and UNICEF;</p> <p>120 children with special needs consulted how to be involved into sports activities; 20 students of Semey</p>	<p>Recommendations of the Conference: adopt strategy and national plan of actions on inclusive education; ensure non-violent and smooth move to transition to and development of inclusive education; improve the algorithm of early (from birth) identification of children with special needs; conduct an assessment of education quality for home-based children and develop a set of recommendations for improvement of services at local level; enhance development and implementation of policies, new legal acts related to financing and functioning of the inclusive educational establishments; conduct research, provide human resources and logistics to inclusive education organizations etc.</p> <p>Joint event of Semey Akimat, UNICEF and Special Olympics in October 2009</p>
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			<p>Med. College and State Med. University of Semey are able to consult children with special needs.</p> <p>UNICEF has signed a project cooperation agreement with Semey State Ped. Institute aimed at improving and documenting the child development rooms' practices in different types of organizations (PMPC, Rehabilitation center, SSPI, kindergartens and rural villages) as a multi-disciplinary approach to early intervention services and support of families with children with special needs. In frames of child development rooms (lekoteka) with counseling functions in kindergartens children with special needs are included into pre-school settings. Guides for play room operation, counseling and interaction with children and a training guide on multi-sectoral approach to inclusion of children with special needs have been drafted by SSPI experts.</p>	<p>The project is aimed at improvement of multidisciplinary approach to early intervention and support of families with children with special needs, incl. capacity building of specialists from kindergartens, rehabilitation center and PMPC from Semey, Abraly and Beskaragay regions on work with families with children with special needs, and development of manual summarizing best practices of work with children with special needs.</p>
1.4.2. Local government are able to effectively apply Human Rights Based Approach and Results-Based Management in assessment,	Local Government and NGOs of the Semipalatinsk region is able to better plan family-based and child-focused social policies at local level	<p>Training guide on a multi-sectoral approach to inclusion of children with special needs drafted by SSPI.</p> <p>Inventory of the community-based services development is planned for beginning 2010.</p>	<p>In 2008 2 family support centers were established: Semey pre-school family-support</p>	

	planning and delivery of social services, taking into account special needs of vulnerable families		UNICEF plans to invite a consultant to check if parental/family/child support is fully provided by these centers and what actions are required for their support.	center (inclusion of children from risk families into pre-school settings and counselling parents re their children, 4 Semey child development rooms promoting inclusion of children with special needs into day care services). Akimat of Semey offered a space and some materials and equipment for the establishment of the family support center that would focus on family vulnerability, re-confirmation of child development needs, mobilizing parents and support their association, provide legal advice and counseling to families, work with Akimat on possible assistance to families depending on their needs.
1.5. By end 2010, local Government and NGOs of the Semipalatinsk region will be able to better plan family-based and child-focused social policies at local level	1.5.1. Local government will have knowledge and instruments on the management of effective approaches to convergent services improvement (health, social protection and		One of the UNICEF initiatives of UNICEF in the Semipalatinsk region planned in cooperation with Semey Akimat is introducing a Child-Friendly City Initiative in Semey. For this purpose, the SitAN on child wellbeing in the region was finalized and presented at local level and the local CFC Action Plan will be elaborated for Semey.	

	education) and monitoring of the Convention on the Rights of Child.			
	1.5.2. NGOs are able to monitor the quality of service delivery and advocate equity access		On-going at national level: through the RBM and RBB and HRBAP approaches delivered within the RBM module, NGOs are educated on the tools to monitor the quality of services and advocacy techniques for equity access.	
	1.5.3. Local authorities will ensure the delivery of social sector services according to the developed standards		<p>A set of social services standards developed in 2008 are being piloted in the region as a part of the overall social services reform that is currently underway.</p> <p>UNICEF international consultant was invited to meet with local Semey and EKO authorities (National Project Director), UNICEF project partners (Semey State Ped. Institute, Semey State Med. University, Rehab. center, YFSs etc.) and key departments (architecture and city planning, health, education, social protection, culture, economy and budget</p>	<p>The Law on specialized social services was adopted in December 2008 aimed at providing social work and care to families at risk. EKO is a pilot oblast of this law (launching social workers in the health facilities, establishment of day care centers for children with special needs etc.)</p> <p>Special attention was made to the so-called CFC promotion group, which should carry out “umbrella” coordination of all activities under CFC initiative in Semey.</p>

			<p>planning) and visiting schools, courtyards, meeting with NGO "Istok" that conducted the SitAN on child well-being in Semey. Visit resulted in recommendations re development of Child-friendly city model in Semey (e.g. regarding child participation in decision-making process, improvement of child security in the city, their health conditions, education, social welfare, culture and sport, leisure and recreation, support of parents, transportation, justice services for children and housing).</p>	
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Economic Component (UNDP):

Objectives	Outputs	OVI s	Progress	Recommendations/comments
<p>2.1. By end 2010, 30% rural entrepreneurs are better able to understand and exploit economic opportunities through access to financial markets, information and training</p>	<p>2.1.1. Business Advisory services provided to rural entrepreneurs</p>	<p>Increased number of rural entrepreneurs benefiting from access to financial markets, information and training</p>	<p>The Fund for financial support of agriculture has established five focal points: 1. Semen city, covering ZhanaSemeysky rayon; 2. Beskaragay village/Beskaragay rayon; 3. Karaul village/Abaisky raoyon; 4. Kainar village/Abralinsky rayon; 5. Koktobe village/Maisky rayon: Focal points were trained by the Fund and during UNDP seminars in 2009.</p> <p>During the period of January to December 2009, the focal points of 5 rayons have provided about 600 businesses consultations to rural entrepreneurs. Most frequently asked questions included questions about microcrediting and microleasing (terms and conditions of microleasing and microcrediting,</p>	

			<p>which equipment could be taken for leasing), and about business plans (how to write a business plan, how to calculate profits).</p> <p>Totally in 2009, it is estimated that more than 1,000 representatives of small and medium size business, rural household and unemployed were consulted on various business related issues.</p> <p>Also during this period, the focal points have conducted 41 seminars in Kazakh and Russian languages on "Microcrediting, microleasing and business-planning" for 534 beneficiaries of the former Zhanasemey and Abzalinsk rayons of Semey city, Beskaragay, Abaysk rayons of East Kazakhstan and Maysky rayon of Pavlodar oblast. The seminar participants included the representatives of small and medium size businesses, rural households, local administrations and unemployed.</p> <p>During 2009, UNDP has conducted 4 three-day trainings for the project beneficiaries from all project territories. Two of these workshops were organized in Russian /39 participants and two others in Kazakh languages /41 participants.</p> <p>Totally in 2009, 80 people were trained, including rural and city businessmen, employees of local administrations, farmers, households, unemployed and specialists of FFSA. FFSA specialists participated as seminar trainers and they explained microcrediting agreement requirements, rules and conditions of microleasing loans, application procedures and etc.</p>	
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2.1. By end 2010, 150 rural households will benefit from microcredit and microleasing services	2.2.1. Access to microcredit and micro-leasing services expanded into rural areas	Number of rural households benefiting from microcredit and micro-leasing services	<p>Microcrediting</p> <p>33 microcredit projects were selected from 300 applications, approved and resources advanced (as of April 2009, 100,000\$). 14 out of the 33 micro-credits were allocated for animal-breeding, 4 projects on crop raising and 15 others financed micro-enterprise activities such as opening a public bath, a bakery, a petrol station, purchasing equipment for small furniture production, equipment for the production of pavement tiles.</p> <p>Prior to receiving the loans, microcredit recipients were trained on microcredit/microleasing/business planning/business management issues, conducted by the Fund and also during UNDP seminars.</p> <p>In October 2009, monitoring visits to 33 microcrediting projects were performed.</p> <p>Short summary of some success stories:</p> <p>1) Adobe brick production (2,000\$ for one year for purchasing a brick production equipment). Nurlan Berleshuly from Abaysk rayon, prior to receiving a microcredit, worked in a construction business and from his experience he knew that bricks are in demand in the rayon, but nobody produced them. Nurlan learnt about UNDP microcrediting programme, consulted a local focal point and applied for a microcredit. This type of business is seasonal, but the entrepreneur has got already the orders both for 2009 and for the summer 2010 (reconstruction of houses and building of barns).</p>	

			<p>2) Joiner's workshop (3,000\$ for one year for purchasing a manufacturing equipment). Birzhan Ihatov from Beskaragay rayon, prior to obtaining a microcredit was unemployed, but he was skilled in wood carving. UNDP microcrediting program provided him an opportunity for opening a joiner's workshop and for starting his own business. Birzhan employed 2 assistants and together they take orders on manufacturing various furniture products. Birzhan participates in oblast exhibitions, where he presents his products.</p> <p>3) Mini-bakery (3,000\$ for one year for purchasing a mini-bakery equipment). Nurzhan Yegeubaev from Maysk rayon, after servicing in the army, decided to open a mini-bakery in his house for baking and selling bread and bakery products. The villagers had difficulties in purchasing bread in the rayon due to shortages in bread supplies. Having learnt about UNDP microcrediting program, Nurzhan with an assistance of the local focal point wrote a business plan and applied for a microcredit. Presently, his mini-bakery supplies with fresh bread products 3 villages in Maysky rayon, including the rayon centre.</p> <p>4) Mini-workshop for furniture production (3,000\$ for one year for purchasing various furniture production equipment). Asemgul Rahmetova, from Maysky rayon, worked as an accountant in a furniture shop. She could see that there was a high demand for furniture. After Asemgul participated in UNDP seminar on microcrediting/business plan, she decided to apply for a</p>	
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			<p>microcredit. After receiving the loan, she opened her own furniture shop, which is developing well.</p> <p>Microleasing Initially, the micro-leasing programme was developed by the specialists of FFSA. Afterwards, it was analyzed and reviewed by Kostadin Munev, expert on microleasing from UNDP "JOBS" project. Mr. Munev's recommendations were incorporated into the microleasing programme. Also the recommendations, received from Mr. Havhemi Bahloul, an independent expert, who conducted a mid-term project evaluation, were taken into account in this program. In June 2009 the final version was approved. Maximum microleasing amount was fixed at 1, 050, 000 tenge (about \$7, 000).</p> <p>The Fund received from UNDP 100,000\$ for the microleasing programme. FFSA published newspaper announcements in local newspapers about availability of funds and also main microleasing rules and conditions. The info was also shared via consultations of focal points, during seminars and via local authorities.</p> <p>The first meeting of the Credit Committee on selection of microleasing projects was on November 26, 2009. UNDP staff, the National Project Director have voting voice. The first five microleasing projects were approved by the Credit Committee. The selected projects included leasing of a mini-tractor, two mini-bakery equipment, a refrigerator and equipment for joiners workshop. At the moment</p>	
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			four microleasing projects for total amount of 1,2 mln. tenge (US\$ 6,800) were implemented. One approved microleasing application for mini-tractor was cancelled by the applicant due to personal considerations. The focal points continue to provide consultations on microleasing issues and to collect applications.	
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Social Component (UNDP and UNV):

Objectives	Outputs	OVI (objectively verifiable indicators)	Progress	Recommendations/comments
3.1. By end 2010, 1500 local community members will benefit from initiatives by NGOs/CBOs resulting from training and grant distribution	3.1.1. Transparent grant mechanism for NGOs/CBOs established in cooperation with local authorities	Number of local community members benefiting from training and grant distribution	<p>In April 2009, Small Grants Mechanism was finalized (including the terms of reference, project application form, and the selection criteria). Priority areas (such as support for: vulnerable groups; youth initiatives, addressing local problems; local initiatives, aimed for improving population health; local initiatives, raising socio-economic and ecological problems) were specified on basic of the project socio-economic researches and also based on the seminar-questionnaire forms (after each seminar the participants filled in the seminar-questionnaire forms, where they specified which local problems they could solve with gained knowledge). Maximum size for a small grant - 3,000\$ (with exception for water supplies projects up to 5,000\$). Project application requirements: NGO should involve initiative groups as project partners, a project should be approved by the villagers, own contribution to the project.</p> <p>May and July 2009, Small Grants projects competition was announced. The announcements</p>	

			<p>were published on UNDP and Semey city Akimat websites, in newspapers "Vesty Semey", "Ertis Economic" and info was spread via the focal points of Beskaragay, Abay, Maysk rayons and Zhanasemey, Abralinsk rayons.</p> <p>The competition was conducted in 2 stages: 1 stage - preliminary selection of submitted applications, performed by the Project Managers and the National and International project volunteers; 2 stage - final selection approval by the majority of voices of the Small Grants Committee. The Committee included the National Project Director, UNDP and UNV staff and a representative of an independent NGO.</p> <p>44 small grants project proposal were received. 13 were approved by the Committee (UNDP/UNV contribution - 39,900\$)</p> <p>Short summary of the projects:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. NGO "Our home is Shulibinsk", the villagers have got access to basic medical services through procurement of the essential medical equipment for the local out-patient clinic (ECG and UHF devices, a glucometer, 449,416 tenge/ \$2996) 2. NGO "Symtas", 400 young villagers have now the possibility for sport and cultural activities. Some musical and sports equipment was purchased for a local youth club (455,000kzt/\$3,033) 3. NGO "Istok", inhabitants of Karaul village received access to water, used for agricultural activities, through renovation of a 	
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			<p>water well (450,000kzt/\$3000)</p> <p>4. NGO "Tuz Kala", children with special needs of Akku village received access to professional physiological support in the established sensor room, where physiological-pedagogical help is provided (450,000kzt/\$3000)</p> <p>5. NGO "Kengir-bay", village children will have fresh vegetables/vitamins throughout the year from the renovated school greenhouse (450,000kzt/\$3000)</p> <p>6. NGO "Tuma" established a workhouse for arts and crafts activities for local children and youth of Bayanaul village (450,000kzt/\$3000)</p> <p>7. NGO "Association of medical sister", equipped a play/relaxation room in children's TB hospital in Semey city. Music, sports equipment and various games are available now for young patients (445,000kzt/\$2970)</p> <p>8. NGO "Kengir-bay", renovated a water well, so that people of Kengir-bay village have access to clean water (450,000kzt/\$3000)</p> <p>9. NGO "Tuz kala", renovation of a school sports field in Yamushevo village (450,000kzt/\$3000)</p> <p>10. NGO "For future for Kazakhstan", support of musically talented but visually impaired children via procurement of musical equipment for their boarding school (450,000kzt/3000\$)</p> <p>11. Children's centre Zhas Zhuldyz established a crafts and</p>	
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			<p>arts activities course for children from lower-income families (450,000kzt/\$3000)</p> <p>12. NGO "Nash dom shybinsk" renovated a local greenhouse for supplying a village school with fresh fruits and vegetables (450,000kzt/\$3000)</p> <p>13. Establishment of a computer room in Semey children's orphanage home (450,000kzt/\$3000)</p> <p>32 initiative groups and 304 volunteers were participating in the implementation of these 13 projects. About 4,200 people receive benefits from Small Grants Programme in 2009.</p> <p>Monitoring visits performed, best practices published and to be distributed during seminars in 2010.</p>	
3.2. By end 2010, 60 self-help groups and associations will be engaged in voluntary action to support small-scale local initiatives	3.2.1. Volunteerism-based mechanisms mobilized to contribute to community goals	Number of self-help groups and associations engaged in voluntary action to support small-scale local initiatives	<p>International UNV was recruited and started working in Semey city as of 01 April 2009. Three National UNVs were recruited and started working in Semey city in March 2009.</p> <p>The Volunteers provide day-to-day consultations and seminars on various social issues for local project staff, initiative groups, NGOs and local authorities. In addition to planned activities a number of trainings were initiated and conducted on beneficiaries' requests by the project team.</p> <p>One-day seminar "Humanitarian and social mandate of NGOs" was organized in March in Semey city for 30 members of NGOs and initiatives groups.</p> <p>One two-day seminar "Social project development" was conducted for 30 representatives of local government, initiative</p>	.

			<p>groups, NGOs in April in Akku village of Lebyazhenky rayon, Pavlodar oblast.</p> <p>One two-day seminar “Poverty, environment, sustainable livelihoods, gender and human rights” was conducted for 28 representatives of local government, initiative groups, NGOs in April in Bayanul village of Bayaulsky rayon, Pavlodar oblast.</p> <p>In May, one two-day training “Social project development’ was conducted in Kazakh language in Karaul village of Abaysky rayon for 29 representatives of NGOs, initiative groups, local administration and village leaders.</p> <p>In June, one two-day seminar “Results based management of social programs and monitoring of local budget implementation” was organized for 28 city and rural NGOs, local authorities, initiative groups and private sector representatives.</p> <p>In September, a seminar on village development plan/strategic planning was piloted in Shulbinsk village. Representatives of Akimat, business, NGO and initiative groups, developed a plan, which will be presented to the villagers and then sent for approval for the local budget financing.</p> <p>Totally in 2009, UNDP/UNV have organized and conducted three rural and two city two-day trainings for totally of 142 beneficiaries.</p>	
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Important findings from project evaluations conducted in the course of the year

The budgetary aspect of formal care in Kazakhstan study started from international comparisons of child social protection systems. Then analysed the incidence of parental care deprivation in Kazakhstan, made a projection on number of children deprived from parental care and estimated the budgetary costs of institutionalization. The recommendations are as follows: ensure the completeness of statistical coverage of indicators that Kazakhstan submits to UNICEF (TransMONEE Database); cut down the inflow of children into residential care; increase the share of children deprived of parental care under guardianship; focus child protection efforts on prevention of early abandonment, prevention of unwanted (early) pregnancies and outreach to families at risk with under school age children in order to prevent abandonment of these children at the age of 7-8; putting in place a case management system that would permit to review personal cases of children; organize data exchange (data sharing) across agencies; put in place a system of statistical reporting that would provide statistical coverage of all children left without parental care, be it temporarily or indefinitely etc.

The Care for Development programme evaluation that compared the data from EKO, SKO and Akmola Oblast resulted in the following recommendations:

- Nationalize Care for Development (policy documents are in place; implementation plan; capacity building; information and educational materials from Healthy Lifestyle promotion and the rehabilitation centers are available to be contributed to the Healthy Baby Rooms; create a database of examples of successful strategies and best practices; strengthen Healthy Baby Rooms).
- Monitoring (quality assurance of training and of the program; surveillance of program implementation at national level).
- Advocacy strategy for provincial level decision-makers.
- Changes in Care for Development (communication strategies, exploring the use of the checklist and a parent screening instrument; safety information for parents should be included; screening is supposed to be a component in the Healthy Baby Rooms; bring back vision and hearing screening questions; adopt Ages and Stages Questionnaire; monitoring indicators for C4D).
- Promotion of Nutrition issues.
- Integrate efforts for special needs children across Health, Social Welfare, and Education Ministries.
- Organize a sub-regional meeting hosted by the Parliament to share the results of this study and plan for Care for Child Development (sustainability).

Among **the Perinatal Care Assessment** in the EKO the findings are:

1. medical statistical data is of low quality; lack of computer-based data;
2. lack of basic and evidence based medicines;
3. maternities are insufficiently supplied with equipment and materials;
4. poor infrastructure;
5. incorrect delivery management and monitoring;
6. no clinical protocols re sick newborns;
7. lack of resuscitation facilities and personnel etc.;

Based on the revealed problems and discussions with key health experts of EKO the following recommendations were made:

1. To develop a regional perinatal care improvement strategy;
2. To ensure regular upgrade of the current protocols and prikazes;
3. To speed up the regionalization of perinatal care in the region;

Based on the situational analysis conducted by local partners in 2008 the **Child-friendly city model in Semey** was started from analysis of the strengths and weaknesses: Semey, as a result of the ongoing UN Interagency Special Project and, in particular, of the focus and effectiveness of the UNICEF component, is prepared from the human and social capital point of view to undertake a CFCI. Strengths identified: local collaborative network is partially in place with some key Akimat departments, public field workers, NGO's, Universities and some public schools; evidence of technical competency, field experience, networking skills and enthusiasm towards CFCI on part of staff of "Istok" NGO and SSPI; technical-political coordination for CFCI appears guaranteed by Special Project National Head; some growing evidence of inter-Departmental collaboration; there appears to be great support and expectations on part of children and youth, teachers and part of community with regard to CFCI; CFC and CFS inspired projects and policies have been initiated and the overall CFCI could be increasingly integrated into the Semey Project; International attention is still focused on Semipalatinsk area. Weaknesses: Still require official adherence to CFCI on part of the Akim; insufficient political power of Akimat with respect to EK Oblast and the Republic; funding is far from adequate to rehabilitate the widespread negative state of infrastructure, courtyards, street paths and urban furniture, green spaces, etc.

Mid-term evaluation of the project

As specified in the project document, mid-programme outcome-based evaluation (within 18 months from the starting date) is to be conducted, in order to qualify continuation of the project and make adjustments necessary to reach intended objectives.

The findings will be used to determine whether the objectives and performance indicators are still relevant or need to be adjusted. The evaluation will also serve as an opportunity for reflection and discussion with partners and beneficiaries allowing course corrections and refined interventions. The evaluation will be shared and launched as appropriate, being an important tool to communicate project results, lessons learned and best practices.

The Terms of References (TOR) will follow UNDG and UNDP guidelines on evaluations. The TOR will traditionally assess the progress toward goals and objectives, highlighting the contribution of output and activities. The evaluation will then be executed by independent consultants.

UNDP/UNV short summary of the mid-term evaluation/economic and social components

One independent international, Mr. Hachemi, and one national consultants, Mr. Karinbayev, were recruited to perform mid-term evaluation report. During 24-29 April 2009 they have met in Astana and Semey cities with the National Project Director, the representatives of the Fund for financial support of agriculture (Fund), microcrediting organization Asian credit fund, private sector, focal-points of the Fund, Istok, Iris and other NGOs, leaders of initiative groups, beneficiaries, project and programme staff.

The evaluation covered the work of the economic and the social components of the project from January 2008 to April 2009 with the following main objectives:

- a) To assess the status of outputs;
- b) To assess the status of objectives;
- c) To assess the efficiency with which objectives are being achieved;
- d) To assess the status of performance indicators;
- e) To assess the status of targets;
- f) To evaluate the progress of the economic and the social components' activities in relation to the objectives and expected outputs as stated in the project document;
- g) To evaluate the project effectiveness;

- h) To analyze the arrangements of project management and implementation;
- i) To provide recommendations for adjustments, if appropriate.

The evaluation was conducted as follows:

- Desk review of the relevant documents;
- Discussions with UNDP/UNV Kazakhstan programme staff;
- Discussions and meetings with the national partner and the National Project Director;
- Consultations and meetings with the relevant project staff (Project Coordinator, Project Managers, UN Volunteers);
- Meetings and interviews with project partners (research companies, NGOs, representatives of micro-crediting organizations);
- Meetings and interviews with the project beneficiaries.

OVERALL CONCLUSIONS/UNDP/UNV

The project is a highly relevant and well designed intervention that addresses the root causes of the issues affecting Semipalatinsk, one of the poorest areas of the country. The project is particularly commendable for its long-term developmental and integrated approach that complements government and other donor interventions. Because of this integrated approach, the project brings a distinctive value-added to the development efforts targeted at the Semipalatinsk area and is an effective way of achieving development impact.

The project is a typical ABD intervention which shares several positive features of other ABD programmes supported by UNDP/UN in the region. Firstly, the project builds on a previous UNDP intervention in the area and in this way integrates other dimensions of effectiveness namely focus, coherence and continuity. Secondly, the integrated approach adopted by the project was naturally suited for multi-UN agencies involvement. The project was designed as a UN intervention which combines the capacities and experiences of several UN agencies so as to maximize effectiveness.

It can be the case that coordination and cooperation difficulties, sometimes leading to implementation delays, are encountered when more than one institution contributes to the realization of a project. In the case of this project it seems that coordination and cooperation among UN agencies is very good. This is partly explained by the good design of project implementation arrangements. The project has three clearly distinct objectives and components. The implementation responsibilities for each of the components among the involved UN agencies are very clear which facilitates accountability, coordination and minimizes the risks of duplication.

As regards fund management, the pass-through modality adopted by the project consisting of one UN agency (in this case UNDP) receiving the donor funding, channeling it to the other agencies involved and being responsible relations with the donor and reporting is an effective and efficient way of managing resources and acting as “one UN” that “delivers as one”.

The economic and social components of the project are on track to implement all the initially envisaged activities. They are also on track to achieve their objectives, although the quantitative target of one the objectives is not realistic and needs to be revised to bring it in line with what can reasonably be achieved by a donor-supported project. The good progress made by the project towards the implementation of its activities and the achievement of its objectives is due to the efficient coordination and implementation arrangements, including coordination and cooperation between UN agencies.

The project (the two components that were evaluated) is an intervention which can be expected to achieve its intended results in an efficient, effective and sustainable way.

Risks

With the choice of the FFSA as the micro-credit organization and at the same time the training and advisory services provider, the project has minimized the risks related to the micro-financing activity. The Fund has only had one default on its rural micro-credit activities so far. This is perhaps not surprising given that the institution has the full authority of the state behind it.

There is a higher risk related to the micro-leasing component due to the fact that it is a pilot project and experience in the country is scarce. However, the use of external expertise combined with the experience and authority of the FFSA will minimize this risk.

However, as in any development project, there is always room for “fine-tuning” and improvement. External evaluations are useful precisely because they enable external experts to take a “fresh look” at project implementation and identify areas for improvement.

The mission considers that the project has considerable potential for broadening the scope of its activities and the further expansion as part of another phase and with additional resources.

MAIN RECOMMENDATIONS and follow-up actions, taken by UNDP/UNV

- **Revise the target of Objective 2.2 to make it more realistic:** By end 2010, 30% rural entrepreneurs are better able to understand and exploit economic opportunities through access to financial markets, information and training. In particular the project should try to align the formulation of the target with what it seeks to achieve (targeting of both rural households and registered firms) and be realistic in terms of what is actually achievable with the (by definition) limited resources of a development cooperation project.

Follow-up action:

The project has updated the data on all registered and active small and medium entities in affected rayons. On the project territory, there are about 3,500 registered and actively working rural entrepreneurs. 30% of them makes 1,050 people: i.e the target of the Objective 2.2

- **Opt for a smaller micro-leasing size** in order to better target vulnerable groups (groups that have less business capacities, experience and opportunities), maximize the number of beneficiaries and achieve the project’s target.

Follow-up action:

Maximum microleasing loan was fixed at 7,000 \$. The project will participate and have a voice in the Credit Committee of the Fund for financial support of agriculture

- **Strengthen the results monitoring system** in relation to the advisory services provided by the focal points, employment generation, training and gender.

Follow-up action:

Focal points – UNDP monitoring and reporting process was established and is being followed up. The focal points provide weekly and monthly reports to the Project Manager.

- **Consider adding social partnerships as an additional area of training.** It was considered as very important by several NGOs that the mission met due to the fact that it aims to promote dialogue and partnership between NGOs and state institutions.

Follow-up action:

Social partnership module was included and presented during social project development trainings

- **Refine the project's concept with respect to the village development plans.** It may be appropriate to establish a link between the village development plans and the project's grant scheme. The project could set aside some of the resources of the grant scheme to fund priority projects that are identified by the village development plans. This would provide an incentive for villagers to actively participate in the process.

Follow-up action:

The TOR was finalized according to UN/UNDP/UNV. Situation analysis performed, priority areas and volunteers involvement specified.

UNFPA short summary of the mid-term evaluation/health component

An independent, national consultant, Ms. Idyrova was recruited to perform mid-term evaluation of the report. During 19 October - 23 October 2009, she has met with the National Project Director, the representatives of the Deputy Head of health department of East Kazakhstan Oblast, with Rector of Semey Medical University, with number of health specialists, beneficiaries, project and programme staff.

The evaluation covered the work of UNFPA part of the health component of the project from January 2008 to October 2009.

OVERALL CONCLUSIONS/UNFPA

All women are now allowed to occupy comfortable positions during their labour, while in 2007 that practice was not used at all. During labour women are not forced to give birth in Rakhmanov's bed. In comparison with 2007, when stimulation of birth activity was performed in 50 percent of cases in 2009 is performed in isolated cases only. The frequency of episiotomy reduced from 15 to 10 percent. Partograms has become a routine tool. In most of cases it is developed after delivery. The progress is there. However in Southern Kazakhstan percentage of episiotomies was reduced to 5 and partograms are used in the management of all deliveries. Half of physiological deliveries are attended by skilled midwives, who are just helping women, while earlier all deliveries were associated with interventions by obstetricians. However another half of deliveries are attended by obstetricians. In Southern- Kazakhstan all physiological deliveries are attended by midwives but in Semei region need to be improved.

In the antenatal care clinics showed frequency of medical visits during normal pregnancy in Semey region was about 14-15 times. After initiating and conducting series of trainings on effective perinatal care, it was reduced to 8-10 visits during pregnancy

MAIN RECOMMENDATIONS/UNFPA

- To perform an inventory of maternities in order to elaborate the order for perinatal assistance throughout the region

- To ensure correspondence between practice and adopted protocols
 - To pay special attention to monitoring and timely interventions
 - To pay special attention to day-to-day trainings of medical staff on usage of internal resources (frequently asked questions: partograms, washing hands, primary reanimation of newborns)
- In order to receive political support, it is advised to train heads of hospitals, specialists from health departments of East Kazakhstan on new perinatal technologies.

UNICEF short summary of the mid-term evaluation/health component
OVERALL CONCLUSIONS/UNICEF

The Project contributes to a long-term developmental and integrated approach that complements government and other donor interventions.

Despite of short implementation (18 months) all project activities were known and supported in the local communities.

Although the key interventions of the project are designed to be based on collected evidence (for instance, analysis of perinatal care, the findings and recommendations of which were shared with local and national authorities), up-to-date effective technologies need to be introduced in the whole region and capacity of local professionals - to be strengthened. (OBJECTIVE 1,1.).

Project's components related to training, dissemination of quality information and strengthening of local institutional capacities and networks of collaboration are progressing well (Better ECD practices available to families with children 0-3 - OBJECTIVE 1.2; Youth Friendly Services – OBJECTIVE 1,3).

Despite the estimated number of vulnerable families benefitting from the social counseling and family support by now, the undertaken comprehensive approach would result in greater final impact on population (OBJECTIVE 1,4).

Significant increase of motivations and knowledge of Department Heads, Politicians and NGO's and the competencies of technical staff, teachers and community activists can be seen, commitment for the project goals reaffirmed by signing the MOU with EKO Akimat.

MAIN RECOMMENDATIONS/UNICEF

- OBJECTIVE 1.1: Based on the findings of the perinatal care SitAN to develop and incorporate a tool to monitor quality of perinatal care provided to women and newborns in the region; follow up on trainings of health personnel; to continue promotion of effective regionalized perinatal technologies introduction at local level and nationwide.
- OBJECTIVE 1.2: To monitor the progress in rural areas; to create more synergy between doctors and nurses; to review whether informative materials are reaching targets; Healthy baby rooms need more space; to make more use of local press, TV to effectively promote services.
- OBJECTIVE 1.3: To expand outreach in schools being carried out by Youth Volunteers (to involve more boys); to promote more exchanges and meetings between sub projects.
- OBJECTIVE 1.4: To better integrate Akimat Departments (Health, Social, etc.) into a local promoting group to accelerate administrative procedures, procure available funds; increase training of parents

- **OBJECTIVE 1.5:** To integrate Special Project into an overall Child-friendly City Initiative (CFCI) in Semey; to explore possibility of membership of a high Gov official in PB; to increase attention to civil society capacity building; to expand diversity of Akimat Departments actively involved (CFCI facilitates this); to integrate overall Project objectives into “container” of CFCI for Semey City.

Implementation constrains

Due to limited financial resources, the project could cover only some part of potential rural microcredit loaners. However, it must be born in mind that the project is establishing a revolving fund for microcrediting and microleasing. As soon as tranches of the loans are repaid, the fund will be in a position to grant new loans.

UNDP microleasing programme in the region is a new pilot project both for UNDP and the Fund for financial support of agriculture. In order to minimize the risk, the microleasing programme was initially developed by local specialists of the Fund and then it was revised and enhanced by an international microleasing expert from UNDP JOBS project. The Fund performed also a situation analysis on possible providers and beneficiaries interests. Microleasing programme rules and conditions have been explained during UNDP and Fund’s trainings, individual consultations and through articles in local newspapers. Being a new microfinance product in the region and not very familiar to the beneficiaries, microleasing projects application is being slow. Therefore, it was decided to extend the application deadline till end 2009.

Due to remote locations of some villages it is difficult to organize trainings during winter times. In this respect, most of seminars start in March.

Despite the fact that local authorities take active part in UNICEF supported programmes, there should be greater engagement of Akimat management.

Decisions at local level are made without child, youth and family participation.

Lessons learnt

- **Good practice/innovation/project management**

Establishment of focal points in rural areas enhanced access to greater number of villagers to receive consultations on business related issues, including microcrediting terms and conditions, business management, business planning.

Established Small Grants Mechanism strengthens and stimulates cooperation among NGOs, initiative groups, private sector and local administrations. All small grants projects include UNDP/UNV resources and plus financial and in-kind contributions from other stakeholders.

Though the good commitment of all participating UN agencies can be seen there is now enough coordination mechanism at permanent basis.

Best practices exchanging resulted in motivation and capacity building of local health authorities on ECD/BI coordination mechanisms and training center.

Through UNFPA trainings, Semey region health specialists enhanced knowledge and exchanged their work experiences with colleagues from Astana and Shymkent.

For successful promotion and implementation of interventions related to perinatal care, care for development, budget aspects in formal care, family support services, youth-friendly services it is crucial to encourage EKO authorities to monitor, document and present their best practices at the national level.

Best practices exchanging resulted in motivation and capacity building of local health authorities on ECD/BI coordination mechanisms and training center.

Working with partners and impact of key partnership

Good cooperation with project counterparts and beneficiaries is critical for the success of a project. It can be said that the project has established a strong partnership with all the local relevant stakeholders. That with the Semey City Akimat is particularly strong. This is reflected in the high level of participation of Akimat representatives in project events and initiatives. The project also has a webpage on the official website of the Semey city administration, where information about the project and its activities is presented.

UNDP/UNV effective cooperation with local authorities enabled to provide trainings in rural areas with greater numbers of seminar participants and better targeted groups. The local administrations provided information and technical assistance.

The partnership with local NGOs and initiative groups is also very strong. Due to the UNDP/UNICEF previous projects in the region, but also several GEF funded small grants programmes, UN/UNDP/UNV/UNICEF/UNFPA are well known, respected and trusted in the area, including by the local mass media which provide broad coverage to all project activities and events. Another major explanatory factor for the excellent local level partnerships established by the project is the judicious selection of local project staff which provides not only relevant capacity and experience but also strong links with the public, NGO and private sector².

Since EKO authorities are Ust-Kamenogorsk-based, for successful promotion and implementation of UNICEF interventions within the framework of the current project it was crucial to involve EKO authorities into the process of project implementation (MOU signed between UNICEF and EKO Akimat, Perinatal care assessment, Care for development programme evaluation, Budget aspects of formal care study, Gate-keeping mechanisms improvement study etc.) and participation in UNICEF organized events (Round Table on perinatal care, sports tournament for children with special needs etc.).

UNFPA has strengthened further their efficient cooperation with such key project partners as the Semey city Akimat, the Ministry of health, Semey city Medical University, Health department of East-Kazakhstan Oblast, Kazakhstan Association of reproductive health and Association of business women of South Kazakhstan Oblast. Local partners provided with technical and information assistance for seminars and trainings.

² One of the local project managers (social component) and two of the national UNVs used to be Akimat staff. They were selected on the basis of the capacity and experience they could bring to the project. The local project manager of the social component was staff of the Internal Politics Department (the Akimat direct counterpart of the project) and is thus well known to NGOs and citizens. One of the national UNVs and former Akimat staff has experience in training NGOs while the other is experienced in the application of the Social Procurement Law. The third national UNV comes from a local NGO while the local project manager of the economic component comes from the local private sector.

- **Application of human security concept**

The project is highly relevant to address the problems of the Semipalatinsk area. While past donor interventions have rightly aimed to deal with the most urgent environmental and medical concerns (this is also the main focus of the Special Government Programme for Semipalatinsk) the project complements these interventions through a long term development approach.

The Semipalatinsk area is one of the poorest of the country. While the area has significant potential for the generation of income and employment out of agricultural activity and micro-business, this potential is largely unexploited due to lack of resources, capacities and access to information. This is coupled with the persistence inadequate economic, social and cultural infrastructure which seriously impacts on the quality of life and makes the area unattractive for investing and living. While the national and local authorities are aware of the persistence of unfavourable socio-economic conditions in the Semipalatinsk area, there is still a chronic shortage of resource to address the problems.

The rural populations in particular seem to be helpless due to limited capacities and passivity to address their socio-economic problems. The project precisely addresses the root causes of the development problems of the Semipalatinsk area, namely: capacity, public service delivery, business initiative, community mobilization and resources. This is why the UN-supported initiative is highly relevant and timely, although its resources are limited compared to the scale of the problems at hand.

By adopting a long-term developmental and integrated approach, the UN-supported project brings a distinct value-added in comparison with other government and donor-supported initiatives implemented in the Semipalatinsk area.

Impact of key partnership and inter-agency collaboration

The project is a collaborative effort of UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA and UNV. These agencies have divided the areas of responsibility for the implementation of the project according to their specific mandates and comparative advantages. UNICEF and UNFPA are responsible for activities related to ensuring quality basic health services (targeting women, children and youth), improvement of health care and social services for health workers, establishing friendly environment for young people, introduction of Safe Motherhood Initiative and improvement of perinatal services. UNDP is working on expanding economic opportunities available for the poor through the provision of rural business advisory services and the expansion of access to finance through micro-credit and pilot leasing services. UNDP and UNV are responsible for developing the social infrastructure through training targeted to NGOs/CBOs and grant disbursements.

UNDP receives UNHSTF funds and channels them to the other agencies. It is responsible for the consolidation of reporting and manages the relationship with UNHSTF and the Government of Japan. In UNDP, UNV, UNICEF and UNFPA focal points for Semipalatinsk are appointed to facilitate coordination. The implementing partner is the Semey City Akimat. A National Project Director (designated official of the implementing national partner) and a Project Coordinator (hired under the project) have been appointed. Both report to a Project Board (PB) comprised of representatives of the Semey City Akimat, Japanese Embassy in Kazakhstan, a representative of non-governmental organizations, a business representative and programme staff of the UN agencies. The PB meets at least twice a year to assess the project's progress against planned outcomes and outputs and to give strategic directions to the implementation of the project. The National Project Director chairs PB meetings. The Project Coordinator is responsible for the implementation of PB policies and directions and reporting to the PB.

The coordination of the UNICEF/UNFPA administered components on health and social services is ensured by local project managers and programme offices who are responsible for the supervision of joint activities, documenting experience, applied process, lessons learned and ensuring a link with ongoing health and social reforms process.

The economic component is managed by a local project manager who is responsible for the supervision of activities, quality assurance, capacity building, relations with public authorities and communication. The micro-finance and business advisory activities have been sub-contracted to the JSC “Fund for Financial Support of Agriculture” (FFSA) which was selected and contracted in line with CGAP and UNCDF standards.

The social component is managed by another local project manager who is responsible for the supervision of activities, including disbursement of grants and the monitoring and evaluation of grant-funded activities, quality assurance, capacity building, relations with public authorities and communication. One international UNV and three national UNVs support the work of the local project manager by interacting with the local NGO community and local initiative groups. The implementation of training activities is outsourced in part to NGOs. Decisions on the selection of projects for grant funding will be taken by a Grants Committee consisting of UN programme staff, civil society and local authorities.

The design of the project took into account the lessons learned from the UNDP/UNICEF-supported Semipalatinsk Programme. This is another positive feature of the project at hand since it enables avoiding the mistakes of the past intervention and integrating positive lessons learned such as the need to ensure a better monitoring of micro-credit support, promote employment generating productive activities rather than commercial activities and rely on existing structures for the provision of support rather than create new structures which are difficult to sustain.

Cooperation among the Agencies is realized on day-to-day practice (coordination issues, preparation and follow-up actions of the project regular meetings, sharing experiences with national and international experts.

A joint UNICEF/UNFPA training on Effective perinatal care, including managing women and infants with HIV/AIDS and STE conducted in August 2009 in Semey resulted in support of the local experts and trainers to transmit their knowledge, commitment of local (and national) authorities and partners to promote, implement and monitor effective perinatal technologies in the region.

UNV and UNDP are successfully cooperating on all the project activities within the social and economic components of the project.

Other lessons learnt

Evaluations undertaken by UNICEF local, national and international partners in the region showed : 1 - Orphans, including social orphans should not be provided the kind of living standards that can potentially induce antagonism of the rest of the population; 2- Care for Development recommendations were much less common in the EKO, where training was initiated only a year ago, and is of shorter duration than the South and Akmola; 3 – There is a great potential for improvement of perinatal care in the EKO, and consequently – maternal and child mortality rates can be decreased via effective perinatal care introduction and monitoring.

Percentage of budgeted funds actually spent - 88%.

IV. Forthcoming annual work-plan

Brief info ab the forthcoming plans:

Within the health and social services component UNICEF plans to contribute to:

- development of perinatal care monitoring tool and promotion of regionalization concept of perinatal care at local and national levels;
- strengthen monitoring and evaluation component of care for development covering families with children under 3, incl. rural areas;
- revision and documentation of the best practices of inclusion children with special needs into pre-school settings;
- promotion of models of family-support and youth-friendly services, healthy baby and child care and development rooms in different environments.

To plan future interventions in Semey under more integrated approach to health, education and social services – A Child-Friendly City Initiative.

Finalising the project interventions in 2010 UNFPA will provide technical assistance aimed to insure implementation of international standards of antenatal, perinatal and intranatal care in maternity houses of the region through mobilizing national expertise, which is available from Southern Kazakhstan Oblast. The related UNFPA project was successfully piloted there. The national consultants from among qualified and appropriately trained obstetricians and midwives will visit the Semei project sites in urban and rural areas. They have to observe to what extent WHO/UNFPA-advocated technologies are put into practice and issue instructions just in the process of delivery and providing consultations to clients.

UNFPA jointly with UNICEF and with the involvement of WHO will also focus its efforts on technical assistance to regionalization of obstetrics care, so that the emergency care becomes available, and women, who need to receive care in higher level institutions, would not have stayed in lower level healthcare settings, which capacities are inadequate to provide the required size of medical aid.

UNFPA will help to revise the training curricula delivered in Medical University of Semey for postgraduate and undergraduate students (certified physicians of physicians in the future) and in Medical College of Semey for undergraduate and postgraduate students (certified midwives or midwives in the future). Both academic institutions are training health specialists mainly for Eastern part of Kazakhstan with Semey region among them. The help will be based on an opportunity of academic institutions to change arbitrary 10 percent of their mandatory training curricula.

UNFPA will also focus efforts to facilitate implementation of logistics management information system for the insurance of reproductive health commodities security in Semey region through technical assistance to operators using the Channel software and establishing vertical system of control of moving of reproductive health commodities.

UNFPA is intended to help the local government to expand training on family planning, where volunteers of the youth health centre having been established with a help of UNICEF would have been involved. It has to supplement the activities of that centre insuring its focus on sexual and reproductive health. Trained Y-peers from Kazakhstan and neighbouring countries will be invited to train young volunteers in Semey.

Finally UNFPA will take efforts to measure indicators related to implementation of the reproductive health component of the project and to facilitate the appropriate evaluation, so that to ensure completing the project timely.

Within the economic component of the project, UNDP will continue supporting the organization, selected to provide business advisory services (five focal points of the Fund for financial support of agriculture). The focal points will provide day-to-day consultations to local entrepreneurs as well as organize seminars on various business related issues. UNDP will also conduct four three-day trainings on business management, business planning, microcrediting, microleasing and other issues. High priority will be given to further selection of pilot microleasing projects through Microleasing Selection Committee meetings. Monitoring of the selected microcrediting and microleasing projects will be performed throughout the year by the project and the programme staff. Established Focal points/UNDP monitoring and reporting process will be further enhanced in order to strengthen the advisory services provided by the focal points to rural entrepreneurs.

Within the social component of UNDP/UNV, high priority is given to Small Grant Programme (91,000\$ for 2010). Based on the developed Small Grants Mechanism, awarding of small grants to local NGOs for socially priority areas will continue. The projects will be selected and approved during public sessions of Small Grants Committee meetings. The Committee includes the National Project Director, UNDP and UNV staff and a representative of an independent NGO. UNDP/UNV will organize a series of various trainings on social issues. The team of project International and National Volunteers will continue providing consultations and seminars for local initiative groups, NGOs and local authorities.

Estimated budget required – **434,871.54 USD**

Annual Work Plan for:	Enhancing Human Security in the Former Nuclear Test Site of Semipalatinsk						
Period:	2010						
Expected Outputs	Activities	Timeframe				Responsible Party	Planned Budget
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		
1.Health and Social Services: to ensure access to quality basic health and social services for vulnerable groups							
1.1.1 A pool of obstetricians, gynaecologists, midwives, neonatologists and respective health managers (at least 64%) are enabled to provide quality perinatal services.	Conducting 3 training courses on Essential Newborn Care and Breastfeeding and adjust on-job training for health personnel and managers of all maternity houses of Semipalatinsk region.	X	X	X		UNICEF	\$ 5 500,00
1.1.2. Sustainable regulatory framework for provision of	Development, review and endorsement of normative-legislative	X	X	X	X	UNICEF	\$1 750,00

quality perinatal services is in place.	basis for provision of quality perinatal medical services.						
1.2.1. At least 900 primary health care workers (doctors and home visiting nurses) are able to counsel families with children at 0-3 in respect to early childhood development.	Conducting 10 trainings of primary health care workers in respect to early childhood development (Better Parenting).	X	X	X	X	UNICEF	\$ 5 000,00
	Follow-up to training and advocacy workshops for adjusting training curricula for current needs, ensure smooth implementation of the programme and its sustainability.	X	X	X	X	UNICEF	\$ 2 000,00
1.2.2. Enabling regulatory environment for strengthening existing home visiting system for families with children at 0-3 is established.	Introducing revised regulations on quality counseling health care services for children under 3 and pregnant women (including printing and distribution of the revised records and monitoring forms).	X	X	X	X	UNICEF	\$ 2 000,00
1.3.1. Managers and staff of youth-friendly psychosocial and health services are able to provide quality counselling in respect to young people's sexual, reproductive and psychosocial issues.	Conducting two trainings of youth-friendly services and NGO staff on youth friendly targeted interventions and outreach work.	X	X			UNICEF	\$ 1 000,00
	Conducting four trainings for peer educators and two advocacy meetings with participation of young people, decision makers, mass media.	X		X		UNICEF	\$ 1 500,00
1.4.1. Service providers/social workers effectively support families and enable children to grow up in the family environment.	Establishing of family support center (including supply and development of materials).	X	X			UNICEF	\$ 5 000,00
	Conducting two training sessions on Social Work.	X		X		UNICEF	\$ 8 000,00
1.4.2. Local government are able to effectively apply Human Rights Based	Development of standards and progress indicators for family support service.	X	X	X	X	UNICEF	\$ 2 000,00

Approach and Results-Based Management in assessment, planning and delivery of social services, taking into account special needs of vulnerable families.	Evaluation of trainers' activities, family support centers and social workers' performance, development of recommendations for scaling up.	X	X	X	X	UNICEF	\$ 5 000,00
1.5.2. NGOs are able to monitor the quality of service delivery and advocate equity access.	Elaboration/development of strategy/instruments on applying Human Rights-based Approach to Programming in planning and delivery of social sector services.	X	X	X	X	UNICEF	\$ 3 000,00
1.5.3. Local authorities will ensure the delivery of social sector services according to the developed standards.	Elaborating the Local Plan of Action for Children and Family based on Child-Friendly City Concept for Semipalatinsk Region.	X	X			UNICEF	\$ 5 000,00
	Evidence-based advocacy on the local, regional and national levels to ensure sustainability and replication of child-focused planning initiatives to be promoted and recommended for adoption throughout the country.	X	X	X	X	UNICEF	\$ 2 500,00
Administrative/management costs							\$ 29 160,00
Sub-total							\$ 78 410,00
Programme Support Cost							\$ 5 489,00
Total							\$83 899,00
1.1.1. A pool of obstetricians, gynecologists, midwives, and respective health managers is enabled to provide quality medical services	Workplace-based technical assistance by national consultants from Southern Kazakhstan pilot project site is provided to reinforce practical skills of health staff		X			UNFPA	\$ 6000
	Working group meeting to produce draft of regionalization the obstetrics care (jointly with UNICEF) in the		X	X		UNFPA	\$10 000

	region with the involvement of all oblast covering the former nuclear tests area						
	Technical assistance in implementation of logistics management information system for the insurance of reproductive health commodities security in Semey region			X		UNFPA	\$5000
	Training for volunteers of the youth health centre in Semey on sexual and reproductive health by trained Y-peers from Southern Kazakhstan		X			UNFPA	\$ 8000
	Technical assistance to review the training curricula on applying new antenatal, perinatal and intranatal standards for Medical University of Semey and Medical College of Semey			X		UNFPA	\$ 4000
1.1.2. Sustainable regulatory framework for provision of quality perinatal services is in place	Final evaluation of the project			X		UNFPA	\$ 4000
	One-day regional meeting to present and discuss analytical report on efficiency of integrated reproductive health and family planning technologies in the region			X		UNFPA	\$ 7000
Sub-total							\$ 44 000,00
Programme Support Cost							\$ 3 080,00
Total							\$ 47 080,00
2 Economic: To build capacities for entrepreneurship and business skills, and provide modalities for generating economic and employment opportunities							
2.1.1. Business Advisory services provided to rural entrepreneurs	Supporting the organization selected to provide business advisory services	X	X	X	X	UNDP	\$ 2 400,00

	Delivering quarterly (4) three-day trainings for rural entrepreneurs on business management and business planning; vocational/technological training; quality assessment; use of micro credit and micro leasing	X	X	X	X	UNDP	\$ 22 900,00
	Advocacy and awareness raising on microleasing. Monitoring of microcredit and microleasing projects	X	X	X	X	UNDP	\$ 12 120,00
3 Social: Mobilizing and empowering communities, promoting volunteerism and supporting NGOs/CBOs in providing community services and in acting as agents of change within society							
3.1.1. Transparent grant mechanism for NGOs/CBOs established in cooperation with local authorities	Awarding small grants to registered NGOs/CBOs during the public sessions of the Small Grant Committee	X	X	X	X	UNDP/UN V	\$ 93 850,00
	Monitoring visits to track the implementation of projects financed with grants by project and programme staff	X	X	X	X	UNDP/UN V	\$ 6 500,00
	Organizing one-day workshops on Social Procurement Law			X		UNDP/UN V	\$ 1 300,00
3.2.1. Volunteerism-based mechanisms mobilized to contribute to community goals	International UNV to support and conduct training of national UNVs. National UNVs support the creation of self-help groups in selected rural areas through follow-up activities on delivered trainings and day-to-day presence and advice	X	X	X	X	UNDP/UN V	\$ 41 000,00
	Village development plans that outline possible social, economical and ecological projects are developed by CBOs		X	X	X	UNDP/UN V	\$ 1 000, 00

	Organizing quarterly trainings for local NGOs/CBOs at the rayon level on (1) organizational development and technical capacity building; (2) poverty, environment, sustainable livelihoods, gender and human right issues; (3) humanitarian, social mandate of NGOs and CBOs; (4) participatory assessment techniques; (5) practical skills on the new Social Procurement Law and fund-raising; (6) Results based management of social programs and monitoring of local budget implementation (7) mobilization of volunteers (8) Social project development	X	X	X	X	UNDP/UN V	\$ 11 900,00
Administrative/ management costs		X	X	X	X	UNDP	\$ 131 376,00
Sub-total							\$ 324 346,00
Programme Support Cost							\$ 22 704,22
Total							\$ 347 050,22
GRAND TOTAL							\$ 478 029,22

V. Resources and financial implementation

- a) An outline of the total approved budget and a summary of the resources available to the project.

Table 1: Total approved budget and summary of resources available to the project:

	Amount (US\$)		
	Previous period (A)	Current period (B) 01/01/2009 to 31/12/2009	Total (C=A+B)
Total approved programme costs (I)	1,832,128.00	1,832,128.00	1,832,128.00
<i>Programme costs received to date (II)</i>	786,484.00	636,089.82	1,422,573.82
Total approved Total approved PSC (III)	128,248.96	128,248.96	128,248.96
<i>PSC received to date (IV)</i>	49,565.64	47,877.72	97,443.36
AA-fee	18,321.04	-	18,321.04
Total funds received to date (V)	841,537.88	683,967.54	1,525,505.42
Total approved budget (VI = I+III)	1,960,376.96	1,960,376.96	1,960,376.96
Estimated total expenditure (VII)	735,706.34	613,227.66	1,348,934.00
Balance (VIII = V-VI)	-1,118,839.04	-1,276,409.42	-434,871.54
Expenditure vs funds received (IX = VII/V)	87%	89%	88%

VI. Promotional activities

Throughout the reporting period, more than 30 newspaper articles were published in such local newspapers as “Semey Tany”, “Spektr”, “Vesty Semey”, Ertis Oniry”, “Rudny Altay”, “Abay Eli”, “Nashe Delo”, “Beskaragay Tynusy”, “Bayanaul Bauraiy”, Medizina dlya vseh” “Ertys Ekonomikasy” and in the national newspaper “Kazakhstanskaya Pravda”. The project’s events and activities were also broadcasted on the national TV channels “Habar” and “Astana” and on several local channels as “TVK6”, “STR”, “Pavlodar-Kazakhstan”.

There were as well some websites articles, e.g. on the website of the Ministry of Agriculture, national media agency “Kazinform”.

In September 2009, UNDP Regional Communications Officer from Moscow visited Astana and Semey cities, and met with key project stakeholders, partners and beneficiaries in order to produce a UN movie “Semipalatinsk region: human stories of recovery”.

Fast Facts one-pager, containing main data on the polygon, the region, Government, UN and other donors’ programmes in Semey, was prepared in Russian, Kazakh and English languages. The movie and the Fast Facts are being distributed to beneficiaries, mass media and other interested parties.

All projects activities and announcements are regularly updated on UN Agencies’ and Semey city Akimat websites.

Success stories were prepared and published and are being distributed to project partners and beneficiaries.