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**RAISING COMPETITIVENESS OF THE REGION THROUGH INNOVATIVE
APPROACHES TO REGIONAL PLANNING AND SOCIAL SERVICES (USING SEMEY AS AN EXAMPLE)
FINAL PROGRAMME NARRATIVE REPORT**

REPORTING PERIOD: 1 NOVEMBER 2011- 31 JUNE 2016

<p style="text-align: center;">Programme Title & Project Number</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Programme Title: Raising Competitiveness of the Region through Innovative Approaches to Regional Planning and Social Services (using Semey as an example) Programme number: MPTF Office Project Reference Number: 00080221 	<p style="text-align: center;">Country, Locality(s), Priority Area(s) / Strategic Results</p> <p>Kazakhstan/East Kazakhstan region</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Participating Organization(s)</p> <p>UNDP UNICEF UNFPA UNV</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Implementing Partners</p> <p>Ministry of National Economy of the Republic of Kazakhstan, Akimat of East-Kazakhstan oblast, Akimat of Semey city</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Programme cost (US\$)</p> <p>Government of Kazakhstan (pass-through): 9,816,365</p> <p>Agency Contribution</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> UNDP – 900,000 UNFPA – 230,000 UNICEF – 700,000 Turkish AID, MFA of Finland, GEF Small Grants Programme TOTAL: 11,657,365 	<p style="text-align: center;">Programme duration</p> <p>Overall Duration: 56 months</p> <p>Start Date: 01.11.2011</p> <p>Original End Date: 31.12.2015</p> <p>Current End date: 31.06.2016</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Programme Assessment/Review/Mid-Term Eval.</p> <p>Assessment/Review - <i>if applicable please attach</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes x No</p> <p>Mid-Term Evaluation Report - <i>if applicable please attach</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes x No</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Report Submitted By</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Name: Norimasa Shimomura Title: UN Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative in Kazakhstan Participating Organization (Lead): UNDP Email address: norimasa.shimomura@undp.org

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Abbreviations and Acronyms

Akimat	Executive administration body
CFC	Child Friendly City
C4D	Communication for Development
DRR	Disaster risk reduction
EKO	East Kazakhstan Oblast
EPC	Effective perinatal care
GLD	Governance and Local Development Unit of UNDP
IMCI	Integrated management of children illnesses
JP	Joint Programme
Maslikhat	Local representative body
MCH	Mother and child health
MDG	Millennium Development Goals
MOH	Ministry of Health
Oralmans	Kazakh repatriants
PWDs	People with disabilities
PHC	Primary healthcare
RK	Republic of Kazakhstan
SME	Small and medium enterprises
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNFPA	United Nations Populations Fund
UNV	United Nations Volunteers

Executive Summary

This report presents the work implemented under "Raising Competitiveness of the Region through Innovative Approaches to Regional Planning and Social Services (using Semey as an example)" the Joint Program and covers the period from November 1, 2011 to June 30, 2016. The report is in fulfillment of the requirements of the Standard Administrative Agreement (SAA), concluded between the Administrative Agent (UN MDTF Office) and the Donor. In line with the Memorandum of Understanding between the participating UN agencies and the UN Development Program, the report is prepared on the basis of information, data and financial statements provided by the participating agencies. The report presents a comprehensive overview of the main results obtained during the implementation of the Joint Programme.

The Joint Programme was implemented by three UN agencies: the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the UN Development Program (UNDP). In addition, United Nations Volunteers participated in the Joint Programme.

UN agencies working in East Kazakhstan region in close cooperation with government agencies and representatives of civil society, complementing each other, were able to make significant changes. The implementation of the Joint Programme led to significant enhancement of the capacity of regional administrations and Department of Statistics in monitoring and analysis of demographic data in the system of socio-economic planning and monitoring of the regional development programmes with taking into account vulnerable groups. In addition, the quality of obstetrical institutions increased significantly, wherein two leading institutions received the quality certificate of ISO management. The Mother and Child Health (MCH) Center in Ust-Kamenogorsk was transformed into a multifaceted center providing continuum of care to mothers and children improving access to high-quality medical assistance and early detection of developmental delays. The level of knowledge and skills of health professionals in providing services to children and mothers increased significantly. The quality of patronage nursing system for pregnant women and mothers of newborns improved with the introduction of international methods for the assessment of the services provided by visiting nurses and intensive trainings. All of this eventually contributed to a gradual decline in infant mortality in the region.

Courses on Valueology, Perinatal and Antenatal care, Family planning have been developed or significantly strengthened, based on the latest recommendations of the World Health Organization. Youth of East-Kazakhstan is involved in international volunteer movement of Y-PEER, the potential of which has been significantly strengthened with the opening of three resource centers in Ust-Kamenogorsk, Semey and Ridder. The capacity of 20 youth resource centers EKO was enhanced in working with vulnerable young people. New centers were opened in Ust-Kamenogorsk and Zyryanovsk cities to conduct social work with children in contact with the law; juvenile courts in Ust-Kamenogorsk and Semey, juvenile police and probation office were equipped with children-friendly rooms. The mechanisms for identification, referral and response to violence among children were tested in 10 pilot education institutions in EKO and showed positive results.

Employees of institutions dealing with the issues of social protection have increased their capacity in the field of special social services, creation a "barrier-free" environment for persons with disabilities, the elderly and other physically challenged people. They also became more prepared both professionally and psychologically.

5 social infrastructure objects demonstrate the opportunities provided by the physical facilities to create favorable social and economic environment for persons with disabilities. Trainings, consultations, and jobs created directly provided employment to more than 240 people, including 80 persons with disabilities. The capacity of regional departments of education, social protection and health care, universities, social workers and psychologists improved in the application of case management in the work with vulnerable families and preventing the separation of families with children. In Semey new mechanisms of intersectoral work were established in the prevention of abandonment of children under the age of three, the capacity of specialists in primary health care facilities (PHC) and maternity houses increased in working with families at risk of abandoning child that resulted in a decreased abandonment cases.

Due to extensive trainings and 58 successfully implemented local initiatives' projects in 14 districts and rural counties, the East Kazakhstan region has become an example of effective implementation of the local government. Experience of East Kazakhstan has been used for the preparation of the Law of the Republic of Kazakhstan "On Public Councils", actively replicated within the demonstration of the results of the "Concept of Local Self-government Development in the Republic of Kazakhstan." A network of 45 on-line centers at the premises of rural libraries with free Internet access for everyone, as well as the Centre for adaptation of repatriates in Semey that were created within the Joint Programme are well functioning after its completion, demonstrating sustainability of the results. 27 successful business project were supported, including 15 start-ups and 20 rural businesses. Within the framework of the Joint Programme energy-efficient and water-saving technologies were efficiently implemented especially in rural areas at the premises of social facilities. Non-standard and unique solutions, the involvement of young people in solving social problems, as well as measures to promote the development of tourism have made the implementation of the Joint Programme vibrant, outstanding and memorable.

Purpose of the Joint Programme

Participating UN agencies were working towards the achievement of the following objectives:

Objective 1: Capacities of local executive and legislative bodies enhanced for local level planning, implementation and monitoring, and evaluation, while ensuring better protection of the rights and interests of vulnerable groups of the population.

Expected outputs:

1.1 Local government officials are trained in the knowledge and skills necessary to carry out more effective planning and budgeting, taking into account the needs and interests of vulnerable groups – **UNDP, UNICEF and UNFPA**

1.2 Model for effective social protection for children and families at the local level is approved – **UNICEF, UNFPA**

1.3 Regional and district level government agencies are empowered to collect, process, and make available improved data for planning and monitoring of local development plan – **UNICEF**

Objective 2: Local population and communities are empowered to participate in local planning and initiatives to improve local living standards.

Expected outputs:

2.1 A flexible mechanism for financing local development initiatives is piloted at the district level in 17 districts of the Eastern Kazakhstan affected by nuclear testing – **UNDP**

2.2 Local self-administration is improved in 17 districts of the Eastern Kazakhstan – **UNDP**

2.3 50 % of young people in the age group 10-24 years are empowered to participate more actively – **UNICEF**

2.4 Capacity building for communities and local authorities in disaster risk reduction and (DRR) and preparedness for emergency situations – **UNICEF**.

Objective 3: Vulnerable groups in Semey, Kurchatov, Ust-Kamenogorsk and the districts affected by nuclear testing in the Eastern Kazakhstan have improved access to social and economic services.

Expected outputs:

3.1 Children with special needs, children and adolescents, in need of protection of their rights, have access to quality social services and support systems in Semey, Kurchatov, Ust-Kamenogorsk and the districts most affected by nuclear testing in EKO – **UNICEF**

3.2 Increase in access to and quality of maternal and child health care services (MCH) and guaranteed universal access to reproductive health services – **UNICEF, UNFPA**

3.3 Reduction in vulnerability among adolescents and young people to risks associated with the process of reaching sexual maturity and imposition of gender roles – **UNICEF, UNFPA**

3.4 Piloting of innovative system of providing special social services to the elderly at home, development of a network of day centers for elderly, centers for social adaptation for the homeless – **UNDP**

3.5 More than 22 000 oralmans in the territory of EKO receive adaptation services in the Center for Adaptation and Social Integration in Semey city – **UNDP**

3.6 Over 500 micro and macro enterprises (with more than 3000 people) benefit from the development of entrepreneurial skill and knowledge on climate change adaptation in 17 districts of EKO – **UNDP**.

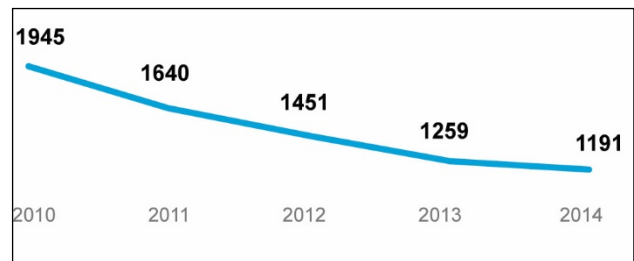
Objective 4: Increased awareness among the local population of the aims and objectives of the project and their links to improvements in living standards and health status.

Expected output:

4.1. The population regularly receives information on best practices in the sphere of social protection, health, community participation in the implementation of EKO's regional development strategy – **UNICEF, UNDP, UNFPA.**

Objective 1: Capacities of local executive and legislative bodies enhanced for local level planning, implementation and monitoring, and evaluation, while ensuring better protection of the rights and interests of vulnerable groups of the population

Within Output 1.1 with the support from participating agencies local executive bodies increased their capacities in planning, implementation and monitoring to increase assurances that the rights and needs of vulnerable groups, including people with disabilities, orphans, children, adolescents and their families are taken into account and fulfilled. Specifically, under this Output they raised capacities in developing alternative family care versus traditional care of placing children in residential institutions. In close cooperation with the central government they took active participation in improving child care and protection mechanisms for orphaned children and children separated from their parents. As a result, during 2011-2015 the number of children in residential institutions decreased by 38%. UNICEF contributed to the process through supporting the development of an integrated approach to the provision of special social services to vulnerable children and families and child abandonment prevention. The overall aim was to reduce the institutionalization of children and address fragmentation of the child protection system by introducing case management-based identification, referral and response mechanisms in the work of the akimat departments (Education, Health, Social Protection, etc.). The new approach was based on a mapping of the child protection system and developing possible scenarios for reforming the statutory services, conducted by UNICEF in 2010. UNICEF supported the process of introducing integrated approach through intensive trainings, provision of top level international expertise, development of manuals, toolkits and working protocols, awareness raising and exchange of experience. At the oblast level, UNICEF directed its resources for the support of the existing Commissions on Minors (CoM) through the adjustment of its responsibilities, membership (inclusion of NGOs and other professionals directly working with families and children in difficult life situations) and working methodologies. It also invested in capacity building of the CoM in prevention of child family separation, efficient gatekeeping (prevention of placing children in orphanages through avoiding family separation or referring children to alternative family care), referral and oversight system for all children alleged to be at risk of abuse, neglect or exploitation. In Semey city of EKO, new inter-agency commission was set up and UNICEF assisted the functioning and training of their members. However, the created intersectoral mechanisms faced challenges in developing ownership and commitment for new working methods and procedures at the local and regional level on the background of frequent institutional changes related to the child protection coordination function at regional level (closure of child protection department) and lack of a comprehensive strategic document on child care at the national level to guide the reform process at all layers of the government.



Picture 1: The number of children in residential institutions in EKO

UNICEF also assisted local partners in capacity building of specialists to provide social services to children and families in difficult life situations. More than 100 social workers and psychologists in EKO improved their skills and knowledge in working with children in need of protection from harm and abuse, families at risk of separation from their child and in prevention of institutionalization of children. The basics of social work and case management were also introduced in the curriculums of social work students at East Kazakhstan State University and Semey Medical University, thus preparing the ground for a more informed and better educated cadre of social workers in the future. The process also involved the development of the user-friendly manuals, toolkits and protocols with practical guidance and ready-made working templates.

UNICEF also assisted Semey in introduction of the case management in the system of primary health care to prevent child abandonment in outpatients' clinics and maternities. The project was led by the local health unit under the supervision of the chief pediatrician. All social workers and psychologists in primary health care and in an infant home in Semey were trained and provided with methodological tools for identifying and dealing with families at risk of abandonment. The testing in Semey covered the entire state health network in the city. Health unit designated the outpatient's clinic No 12 as a resource center where all the cases from maternities, other clinics, and the infant home were referred and registered. The cases that could not be solved by social workers and required support of various departments of local administration were referred to and solved in the sittings of the inter-agency commission on the integrated delivery of social services to children and families. The working procedure developed by the project were institutionalized and became part of the current, statutory practice of the health units. The project is now fully owned and funded from the budget of the local health department. During the project life more than 128 cases were identified and successfully handled by the local specialists, representing over 50% of the identified vulnerable families at risk of abandoning child (360 families).

EKO local government enhanced their capacity in collecting and processing data to monitor child rights situation in the region and to ensure evidence-based planning. This was done through development of a comprehensive Child well-being monitoring system tested in EKO with the support of UNICEF. The assistance included technical expertise for review of international experience, design of methodology, collection and analysis data, and trainings for local staff on the use of methodology. The monitoring system provides integrated information about significant areas of impact on the development of the child during certain periods of his life. It helps to identify the factors that contribute to or, conversely, inhibit children's development and assists local authorities to make decisions and implement actions to reduce vulnerabilities that children face. The proposed child well-being monitoring system consists of 51 objective and 7 subjective (as perceived by the child) indicators combined in five major directions of quality of life: health, education, material well-being, family and social conditions, safety and security. Subjective well-being of the child was determined using three different tools depending on the age of the child (smiling/sad, ladder for evaluation of satisfaction, profile). Conducted data collection on both objective and subjective indicators helped to define the monitoring methodology and established baseline for monitoring the child situation in



Picture 2. Participation of children in the seminar on planning of children's playgrounds in Oskemen

the region. The local government welcomed the idea of sustaining the child well-being monitoring system, however the following challenges impeded its full introduction in the region:

- the Coordination Board created to oversee the system took a decision to review the list of indicators and base them on available data with the territorial development program of the region, sector programs, and ranking mechanism of Akims to avoid additional workload on local staff, however the access to those indicators has not been provided to UNICEF.
- the abolishment of the department on child rights protection in charge of the system caused the issue of institutional responsibility and future sustainability of the proposed system.
- later on the local administration designated education department to be responsible for maintaining the system, however it did not have overseeing functions on other departments to ensure cross-sectoral work, and therefore could not ensure the full introduction of the system.

UNFPA carried out the sociological survey on the issues of reproductive health and the system of medical service provision, including access to services and information on sexual and reproductive health, among people with various disabilities. The survey findings were acknowledged by the local governing bodies and non-governmental sector of the region at the meeting organized by the National Commission on women affairs and family-demographic policy under the President of Kazakhstan. Outcomes of the conference were used for monitoring and evaluation of effectiveness and efficiency of the reproductive health programmes for people with disabilities as well as for making decisions regarding targeted intervention aimed at improvement of social well being and reproductive health of the people with disabilities.

Under UNFPA technical assistance the local government's specialists representing the Office of Governor (Akim) and sectors of economy and budget planning, health, employment and social programs coordination, as well as non-governmental sector (NGO Women's Federation Status), were trained to interpret various data and indicators on gender equality, reproductive health, population, such as trends and factors of childbirth, mortality, ageing, family development, migration, and demographic data, into the system of socio-economic planning and monitoring of regional development programmes, taking into consideration the needs and interests of vulnerable population groups.

Specialists of the oblast statistical department received training on population projections within the international training programmes of the National Research University called High School of Economics, Moscow. Participants were introduced with various population projections methodologies and techniques, using package software of forecasting the childbirth, mortality and migration flows to produce various scenarios of demographic development.

UNFPA supported seminars aimed at strengthening the capacity of the specialists from local departments of statistics, health, labor and social programmes and economy and budget planning to develop and implement programmes taking into account population trends and sustainable development factors. Civil servants and local politicians gained the knowledge about interrelations between population and development, and learned to integrate demographic data into the socio-economic planning as well as monitoring of development programmes.

UNFPA assisted local authorities in their efforts to create a reliable database of the population and data for social and health sector to improve planning, implementation and quality control of social services, including SRH services for vulnerable groups. This work allowed obtaining an improved database of people with disabilities disaggregated by age, sex, disability group and type of disability (disability of sight, hearing, disorders of the musculoskeletal system, somatic diseases causing disabilities, mental disorders, etc.). Moreover, the database provides information on their place of residence, their employment status, whether they are receiving a social support, status of sexual and reproductive health and their needs of maternal and reproductive health services.

The National team of experts mobilized by UNFPA received access to all existing national databases on people with different types of disabilities. The team described and analyzed the uploaded non-personalized data for Eastern Kazakhstan. This enabled to summarize the overall picture of disability prevalence in the region and identify the special needs of people with various categories of disabilities such as rehabilitation, palliative care, etc. As a result, there were developed recommendations to optimize the data flows among existing databases and involved departments to better identify the needs in service provision including those in healthy maternity, SRH and family planning services. The experts' team carried out analysis and provided recommendations on improvement of the existing Ambulatory Information System "Poliklinika" for better response of the local government on specific needs of people with disabilities.

Expected result 1.3. Regional and district level government agencies are empowered to collect, process, and make available improved data for planning and monitoring of local development plans

UNFPA supported local government in adapted the *DevInfo*, the UN applied software to monitor the progress of achieving the Millennium Development Goals, for Eastern Kazakhstan. A group of international experts built the database on selected regional development indicators as of 2010. The adapted version of the *DevInfo* (*EKOKazInfo*) was presented by international consultants to the local government. Then, the international consultants provided training to 23 representatives of the local government of Eastern Kazakhstan on use and update the *KazInfo* database. Local government representatives accepted the database as useful tool to monitor the socio-economic development of the region. As region will transit to sustainable development goals, those trained specialists would introduce the appropriate indicators into the database. The *KazInfo* database was installed at the Eastern Kazakhstan branch of the National Center of E-Health, and the latter will be further responsible for updating the database and entry the data on indicators related to this region.

UNFPA mobilized a national expert to develop a list of SRH monitoring indicators on vulnerable population groups for EKO Akim's Office. Indicators on SRH of adolescents, people with disabilities and people living with HIV were developed based on the studies at national and regional levels conducted with support of UNFPA in the period of 2011-2015. Proposed indicators were recognized by local government as useful and realistic for the Eastern Kazakhstan region. Some indicators can be collected from the available statistics, while others can be obtained through studies/surveys among vulnerable populations.

Since UNFPA Kazakhstan has established good partnership with religious leaders and faith-based organizations (FBOs) of the two dominating religious communities, Sunni Islam and Orthodox Christianity it was decided to expand this experience to Eastern Kazakhstan region. The focus of the partnership was the issues of safe

motherhood, maternal and reproductive health, prevention of gender based violence and early marriages and non-discrimination of people living with HIV and other vulnerable population groups.

Capacity of around 30 regional FBOs was strengthened on the aforementioned topics during regional workshop in East Kazakhstan Oblast held under the aegis of the National Commission on women affairs and family demographic policy. Along with the team of national consultants, the workshop was co-facilitated by two active religious leaders – the hieromonch Seraphim and the imam Tlepbergen, who developed the sermons and messages on GBV and prevention of child marriages and were involved into the development of Information, Education and Communication (IEC) materials on SRH and GBV. Printed IEC materials addressing maternal health, SRH, FP, prevention of HIV, GBV, including early/forced marriage, supported by quotations from each religion’s respective teachings and doctrines in Kazakh and Russian languages, were provided to representatives of FBOs for dissemination among their followers in Eastern Kazakhstan.

Representatives of the leading mass media outlets including reporters of newspaper Didar, Rundyi Altai, Semey Tany, TV channel TVK-6 and others providing coverage of some 600,000 audience (45% of oblast population) were trained on principles of correct presentation and interpretation of Sexual and reproductive health issues in mass media. The total, 18 journalists were trained. The training laid foundation for partnership with a group of journalists working in urban and rural media outlets of the Eastern Kazakhstan on highlighting the reproductive health issues. As a result, oblast and republican mass media published a series of the articles on SRH issues.

In addition, a seminar concerning the Impact of the Ionizing Radiation on the sexual and Reproductive Health was organized in Semey for journalists and health promotion specialists in 2012.

In order to increase the capacity of representatives of Akimat, involved in the planning, monitoring and evaluation of regional and local development programs, to ensure economic and social equality, UNDP has initiated a number of researches in close cooperation with the Department of Economy and Budget Planning of the Akimat of the East Kazakhstan region:

1. A comprehensive research of the socio-economic situation of the region and single-industry towns (2013);
2. Monitoring and evaluation of implementation of the regional strategic programme documents, implemented at the territory of East Kazakhstan region (2013);
3. The economic potential of East Kazakhstan region and the perspectives for development in the context of the distribution of productive forces and the population (2014);
4. The economic potential of Zyryanovsk district in the context of the distribution of productive forces and the population (2014).



Pic 3. Publications

Researches have shown significant gaps in the development of state programs in the regions, especially in terms of efficiency indicators expediency and monitoring data. Based on the results of the research proposals for improving the structure of regional developing programs, system of monitoring, indicators of evaluation their performance were developed. Researches of economic potential of the region and Zyryanovsky area allowed to develop recommendations to business structures on the use of the economic

potential and identified ways to improve the quality of life of the population, especially of socially vulnerable groups; the foundations of green economy were laid in the district. Results of research were distributed among the representatives of the local executive and representative bodies, the public and the media, and were applied for the development the Territory Development Programme of EKR for 2016-2020 years. All of the above researches have confirmed the necessity of increasing the capacity of local authorities in order to better protect the rights and interests of vulnerable groups.

In order to contribute the successful implementation of the current development program under this Result the following work has been conducted:

- 1740 employees of Akimat and Maslikhat of the region, representatives of non-governmental organizations and initiative groups were trained in planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of socio-economic programs, development and implementation of projects;
- Over 80 seminars on public administration, strategic planning, monitoring and evaluation of results, budgeting and evaluating the effectiveness of public services were conducted;
- More than 180 deputies of Maslikhats of different levels were trained to interact with citizens in solving local community problems, methods of planning their activities, control on the spending of budgetary funds.

The particular benefit from the trainings were noted by the newly elected akims of villages and rural districts, who often start working without any managerial and administrative experience and skills. The fact that the legislation governing local authorities undergoes frequent changes, complicates their work. Non-governmental organizations noted the high importance of education for their professional development, appreciated the practical side of most of the seminars.

Active work on promotion of public councils brought together more than 70 representatives of community councils and members of the local congregations of Zaisan, Zyryanovsk areas and Ridder city in the dissemination of information on the objectives and principles of activity of Public councils and Local assemblies. Representatives of the Public Council received practical knowledge on the interaction with government agencies and NGOs as well as the guidelines for the consideration and decision of the questions raised by the local population. The above three regions applied the benefits of Councils most effectively. It was the first time ever for Zaisan district to have Public hearings which were devoted to the discussion of the amendments to the Land Code. Over 500 people participated at 9 exit meeting that generated 25 specific and clear proposals for the amendments. The first ever Public Council in Ridder was devoted to thermos modernization in housing and utilities area, with the invitation of two regional experts.



Pic 4. It-yurt - demonstration of tourism potential of EKR

The program actively conducted the work promoting the development of tourism in the region through various PR activities, including social networks, conferences and master-classes for employees of tour industry, and the implementation of the pilot project «IT-yurt», popularizing the East-Kazakhstan region as an excellent tourist destination. The Yurt will be located at the Almaty International airport providing information and booking serviced to all potential tourist in the interactive manner.

Objective 2: Local population and communities are empowered to participate in local planning and initiatives to improve local living standards

To achieve this goal through the work on **results of 2.1 and 2.2**, UNDP has developed and implemented a flexible mechanism for funding local initiatives at district level in 14 districts of East Kazakhstan region (including rural districts of Semey), most severely affected by the nuclear test site. The developed model promotes the development of local self-government. Successfully tested even before the adoption of the "Concept of Local Self-government Development in the Republic of Kazakhstan" (28 November 2012), the model has become an important tool for understanding the opportunities offered by the process of decentralization by the rural population. Local self-government - the first level of power closest to the people and is an important resource for the development of the regions. Achieving the goals of any national strategy is dependent on the effective functioning of this institution, providing tactics for its implementation. The close and productive interaction with the population is also an important mechanism for the formation of civil society, without which the full pledged development of the country is impossible.



Pic 5. Population gatherings in Shulbinsk village and their solution to the problem with flooding of pasture lands Koyanbay village

UNDP has supported the establishment of local self-government institution and its strengthening in EKR. Specially designed model involves the following steps:

1. Training of local authorities (akimats, maslikhats), NGOs and the most active residents on the provisions of the Republic of Kazakhstan legislation regulating local government development, project development, ethics and interaction with the public;
2. Conducting gatherings in every rural district together with rural akims, discussion of pressing issues, prioritization, define solutions, preparation of proposals for their implementation.
3. Development of initiative groups of projects from the local villagers;



Pic 6. Pupils of Aiyrtau thanks to energy efficient street lighting regularly take part in the district and regional sports competitions and are not afraid to go back to the lessons in the evenings

4. Evaluation of the developed projects by the budgetary committee of district akimats, in order to avoid double funding and contradictions with local area development plans, consideration of the possibilities of co-financing;
5. The selection of the proposed projects by district maslikhat, their approval of co-financing;
6. Conducting competition among NGOs for the implementation of the project(s) selected by the maslikhat;
7. The implementation of the project(s) passed the competition, bringing to its implementation of the most active people, especially in the process of monitoring and evaluation.



Pic 7 Opening of the first indoor swimming pool in the regional center of East Kazakhstan region, and energy efficient lighting in the city of Zaisan

The authorities of the territories where the Joint Programme was implemented state that the major achievement of the model developed and implemented by UNDP and measures on local government development is the improvement of public confidence in the local authorities and the awareness of their own importance in the solution of local problems.

Activities implemented for the promotion of local self-government ensured the achievement of the following results:

- More than 200 gatherings with the participation of more than 122 thousand people, which identified the key problems and ways to solve them, and a dialogue between the rural population and the authorities;
- The initiative groups of rural districts formed at gatherings organized by UNDP in Semey, Abay, Beskaragai, Ayagoz and Urjar areas were transformed into NGOs and now support the effective functioning of local authorities;
- The combined efforts of local initiative groups, local government offices and district maslikhats allowed elaboration of more than 450 development projects, 53 of which were supported in the framework of the Joint Programme. The list of all projects supported is provided in Table 1;
- UNDP grant funds in the amount of \$ 1.557 mln. and \$ 0.548 mln input from the local budget and population contributed to the improvement of living conditions of more than 250 thousand residents;
- 38 social objects and 18 objects of housing and communal services (HCS) benefited from the Joint Programme;
- The implementation of a mechanism of local government ensured realization of necessary and ambitious projects in rural areas, such as the opening of the indoor pool in the city of Zaisan, beautification of parks, construction of greenhouses. Creating a milk collection stations in Shemonaikha area, the creation of felting workshop has created job places, it has become a new

stimulus for the population, especially vulnerable groups, such as the unemployed, rural women, people with disabilities.

To achieve **Output 2.3** UNICEF supported EKO local authorities in promotion of youth participation by building capacity of 20 youth resource centers in EKO as a frontline agents working with youth. These centers were opened by local authorities, however lacked capacities for dealing with vulnerable youth, especially in rural areas, concentrating efforts mostly on talented and active young people. The assessment of the situation of the YRCs in the country conducted by National Research center “Youth” confirmed that most centers had funding, staff and buildings and support of the local governments, but did not have clear vision and strategy for working with youth. YRC staff members had limited formal training and awareness of youth issues. This resulted in significantly high levels of turnover amongst staff and poor effectiveness of the YRCs overall. In addition to that, UNICEF supported a study on “needs analysis” of adolescents and youth in rural areas of EKO (Ayagoz, Zharma, Zyryanovsk, Abay, Katon-Karagay and Ridder) with participation of over 1,000 young people¹. Based on these assessments, UNICEF supported EKO in strengthening the capacities of YRC building on international experience and focusing on needs and requirements of vulnerable groups. This was done through the provision of top-notch international expertise, trainings, development of manuals and toolkits, awareness raising and exchange of experience. It resulted in development of a strategic framework - “Every Young Person Matters” - to provide a unifying vision and mandate for all YRCs, a set of regional youth policy indicators to monitor the progress and evaluate the success of youth policies and programmes as well as series of trained YRC staff equipped with social work tools and methods for working with youth.



Pic 8. Training of YRC staff

The YRC Framework was developed as a strategic programme of activity focusing on six key themes (Independent living; Personal, Health & Social & Spiritual Education; Information, Advice & Guidance; Leisure; Participation; Youth NGOs) with desired outcomes for young people, sample activities to be delivered in YRCs, measurement indicators and accountability tools. The framework was presented during the trainings and was positively received by YRC staff. A number of YRCs have used the framework informally as a way of guiding and planning activities and programmes in their local YRC. In 2016, the Government included the YRC Framework, previously envisaged as a regional tool, to the national Action Plan for the State Law on Youth Policy to use it as the national framework for youth service delivery in Kazakhstan. The set of regional youth policy indicators were developed using an outcomes-based approach with a focus on five thematic areas (Economic wellbeing; Health & Healthy Lifestyles; Education and learning; Safety & Protection from harm; Making a positive contribution). Each thematic area has a set of relevant indicators and a range of measures.

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¹ East-Kazakhstan Oblast Rural Youth Needs Assessment is available at <http://unicef.kz/publication.html?id=126>

Table 1. Projects implemented at the initiative of the population in the East Kazakhstan region

Territory	Number of settlements	Population	Goal
2011-2012			
Beskaragai area	9	27 000 people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Solution problems of HCS - water supply services (purchase of specialized equipment: tractors and scavengers) ✓ Watered of pasture areas of Koyanbay village (purchase of generators and pumps to provide livestock with drinking water)
Rural district of Semey	16	27 000 people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Solution problems of HCS - garbage disposal in the villages of Shulbinsk and Novobazhenovo (the purchase of specialized equipment - tractor) ✓ Improving the living conditions of schoolchildren in Chekoman village (carrying water supply to the school) ✓ Implementation of street lighting in the villages of Granitny, Zharkyn and Prirechny
Borodulikh a area	27	46 000 people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Solution problems of HCS - carrying out cleaning work in the winter period, road grading in the summer period (purchase grader), as well as garbage disposal (purchase specialized machinery - garbage truck to 30 containers)
2012-2013			
Abay area	9	15 000 people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Solution problems of HCS with garbage disposal (purchase specialized machinery - garbage truck to 30 containers). ✓ Conduct the street lighting in the village of Kengirbay bi
Zharma area	21 rur. dis. and 1 city	46 000 people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Solution problems of HCS, sewer cleaning (purchase specialized machinery - vacuum truck, excavator) ✓ Improving the living conditions of people with disabilities (purchase Invataxi)
2013-2014			
Urjar area	28	76 000 people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Providing fortified food to pupils (the introduction of drip irrigation technology at 11 school sites) ✓ Providing hot water to 7 social and educational institutions, a demonstration of energy efficient practices (solar collectors for water heating); ✓ Providing a comfortable learning environment in 5 schools, demonstration of energy-efficient practices, CO₂ reduction (pyrolysis furnace burning)
Ayagoz area	22 r.d. and 1 city	72 000 people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Providing fortified food to pupils (the introduction of drip irrigation technology in the 15 school sites) ✓ Providing fortified food to pupils for whole year (installation of greenhouses in 3 schools) ✓ The introduction of energy-efficient practices to ensure a comfortable stay (oven pyrolysis burning in three educational and cultural institutions, street lighting in 7 educational institutions and the streets of Ayagoz)

2014-2015			
Kokpekty area	17	38 000 people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Providing fortified food to pupils (introduction of technology of drip irrigation and installation of greenhouses for two schools) ✓ The introduction of energy-efficient practices to ensure a comfortable stay (street lights) at 4 district center streets ✓ Solution problems of HCS to replace the water pump on the pressure to the energy-efficient (replacement of two water towers)
Tarbagatay area	17	44 000 people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Providing fortified food to pupils and students (introduction of drip irrigation technology and installation of greenhouses in the educational institutions of the district, 2) ✓ Implementation of energy efficiency equipment to ensure a comfortable stay (street lights on the two streets of the district center and the pyrolysis furnace burning in 4 educational institutions)
Ulan area	16	38 000 people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Providing pupils fortified food (installation of greenhouses in 1 school) ✓ The introduction of energy-efficient practices to ensure a comfortable stay (oven pyrolysis combustion in the cultural institutions of the area and the installation of street lighting in 4 villages)
2015			
Zaysan area	9 r.d and 1 city	38 000 people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Construction of indoor swimming pool in the town of Zaisan. This is the first indoor swimming pool in the rural area of EKR ever.
Rural districts of Semey	16	21 000 people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Improving the leisure of the population. Setting the scene in recreation park in Znamenka village ✓ Improving living conditions in Akbulak village (set of two fresh and clean water wells) ✓ Improving the leisure of the population. Landscaping of park in Novobazhenovo village
Glubokovskiy area	17	64 068 people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ The introduction of new technologies. The opening of a workshop for felting involving PWDs ✓ Integrated project with social orientation for the implementation of energy efficient technologies (solar lamps on sidewalks, lighting) ✓ Improving the leisure of the population. Landscaping of the park in the village of Gluboky
Shemonaikha district	10 r.d. and 1 city	46 095 people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Installation of milk receiver service for 5 rural districts. ✓ Installing the pyrolysis furnace in a dormitory for young specialists in the village Vydriha and in the school of Pervomajskij village
Zyryanovskiy area	13 r.d. and 1 city	72 203 people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Installation of greenhouses for 11 schools ✓ Creating a nursery for planting of Zyryanovsk and districts EKR ✓ Installation of solar convection dryers for fruits

The intensive trainings of all YRC staff were held during 2014-2015 to enhance their knowledge and skills in performing youth work: building appropriate relationships with young people, identifying vulnerable populations and groups in society, designing services for them based on needs assessment and empower young people. The training materials developed in English, Russian and Kazakh provided a comprehensive package for general YRC staff development and learning. Directors of three YRC in EKO participated in a study tour to the United Kingdom along with other youth policy stakeholders from central, regional and local levels of Kazakhstan to familiarize with good practices in the area of youth policy design and implementation. The experience sharing exercise allowed the delegation to discuss the practices relevant to Kazakhstan and agree on a shared common vision of youth policy and youth resource centers development in the country. The experience of the National Civil Service (largest youth organization in England), the Government of Great Britain, National Youth Agency, De Montfort University, leading youth and community centers allowed Kazakhstan delegation to expand the vision and understanding of opportunities and new ways for the youth policy development in Kazakhstan.

It is early to assess the impact of the program on the youth participation in EKO, but the preliminary data suggests the positive impact on youth referrals to YRCs: youth visits to YRCs in EKO in the first half of 2016 increased by 10.8% compared to data for 2015². The tested approach also allowed to prepare a comprehensive package of tools – the YRC Training Programme, Youth Indicators and YRC Framework – that will be used by the central government to strengthen YRCs in all the other regions of Kazakhstan under the national Action Plan for the State Law on Youth Policy in 2016. The interviews of the trained YRC staff in 2016 showed that they had more enhanced understanding of youth work in their regions and improved skills that resulted in carefully planned activities for youth and use of modern networking tools as social media for connecting with young people.

Output 2.4. EKO is a region exposed to many disasters: earthquakes, floods, extremely low temperatures, fires, mudflows etc. More than 600 teachers and 6,000 children in EKO have improved their readiness for potential disasters as a result of the Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) programme in education. The assessment of knowledge, attitude, practices and behavior of pre-school and school children in terms of disaster preparedness before and at the end of the DRR programme showed that the knowledge and skills of the school children on disaster preparedness improved by 30 percent and of pre-school children by 40 percent. Local government increased their skills and knowledge in conducting disaster risk analysis and designing and implementing measures to mitigate risks to ensure the needs of vulnerable groups, including children are taken into account. UNICEF supported EKO through capacity building of the staff of 11 pilot schools and 7 kindergartens as well as Teachers' In-service Training Institute, equipping schools and kindergartens with necessary DRR equipment and methodical and learning materials, and assessment of structural preparedness of two schools (1 in Ust-Kamenogorsk and 1 in



Pic 9: Support provided in Zubovsk school during the flooding in settlement

² Data of internal policy department in EKO

Ridder) together with the National Construction Institute (KazNIISA). Both, a rural school built in 1975 and an urban school built in 1996 were found to meet fire safety technical requirements but not to meet the 2006 seismic design standards and were prioritized for seismic strengthening. DRR measures were integrated into the work of pre-school's and schools' Emergency and Civil Protection Committees: roles and responsibilities were reviewed, school non-structural safety strengthened, children were empowered to participate in regular meetings and events on DRR, and parents participated in capacity building exercises. As a result of the program, the staff of pilot schools and kindergartens were able to demonstrate their skills and knowledge in emergency situations in EKO. For example, Zubovsk pilot school became a help center during the flooding happened in April 2015 in Zyryanovsk rayon. The staff of the school helped the affected local population not only with life-saving techniques but also arranged for temporary shelter, and for medical and psychological assistance at school. The pilot program allowed for development of a training and methodological learning materials for teachers and children, list of necessary DRR equipment for schools as well as tools for assessment of the preparedness of school buildings to emergency situations. The EKO experience of implementing the DRR programme in education was shared with other regions of Kazakhstan at the national DRR Conference organized by the Ministry of Emergency and UNICEF as well as with Central Asian and Caucasian countries during the DRR knowledge management workshop in Istanbul, Turkey. The pilot school in Zubovsk became a resource center for capacity building of other schools and local communities in the region. The tested DRR components were integrated into the secondary education curricula at the national level.

In 2015 UNICEF also supported local government in adapting and application of Disaster Risk Analysis (DRA) tools in accordance with international standards that enabled local governments to identify, prioritize, plan and implement measures to reduce the level of vulnerability and risks associated with natural and man-made threats in the region. The Technical Working groups (TWG) were set up at the regional and district levels to coordinate the pilot programme. Through the provision of international expertise and capacity building activities UNICEF assisted to conduct the assessment of the disaster risks, vulnerabilities and potential to manage risks in pilot areas (rural settlements of Zyryanovsk rayon) and to develop strategies and action plans with follow-up recommendations and actions. The risk assessment also included surveys of teachers, students of schools and colleges to identify their concerns and needs related to disaster risks in their area. The findings of the conducted risk assessment were presented to local stakeholders for decision making and were later incorporated into the local territorial development plans. The results of DRA assessment in East-Kazakhstan region were presented at the coordination meeting in Astana and proposed for inclusion into safety passports of rayons in EKO. It was also discussed to further approbate the DRA methodology in Kyzylorda and Mangystau regions to scale up the initiative at the local level.

In addition, 3 schools in East-Kazakhstan were assessed for safety by UNICEF consultants with the involvement of local education departments and departments for emergency situations, management of schools, teachers, staff and children. In all of the examined school buildings under all the academic buildings there are basement floors with the ceiling height of up to 2.5 m, which served only for engineering services. It should be noted that from an economic standpoint it is not reasonable to use basements of such a size for engineering services only, especially for schools built in recent years. The visual study also revealed vertical and inclined cracks in the foundations and bearing walls of the basements, which were mainly caused by periodic soaking of foundation bases with atmospheric water and water leaking from the engineering services. These and other issues were brought to the attention of the local authorities and recommendations were discussed to improve the situation.

Objective 3: Vulnerable groups in Semey, Kurchatov, Ust-Kamenogorsk and the districts affected by nuclear testing in the Eastern Kazakhstan have improved access to social and economic services

Output 3.1 During 2011-2015 in East-Kazakhstan children with disabilities, children and adolescents in need of protection from violence and abuse, children in contact with the law, including offenders, victims and witnesses of the crime, were provided access to improved social services and support services.

With an ultimate goal of promoting inclusive communities UNICEF assisted local partners to test good practices for socializing children with disabilities through sport and education activities, as well as to promote inclusive healthcare and cultivate healthy lifestyle habits among such children. During 2013-2014 approximately 100 children with disabilities

and their families participated in inclusive sport, health and education activities. Over 50 children with intellectual disabilities from rural areas (Zharma, Ayagoz districts) participated in adapted physical activities and mini-football together with other children without disabilities. They were assisted by 30 volunteers - social workers, school teachers of physical training – who learnt how to engage children with disabilities into sports games through capacity building activities. Over 40 parents of children with disabilities participated in family forums with Special Olympics experts and local special services providers where they could share their experiences, concerns about their children and improved their knowledge and skills on taking care of children with special needs. Over 20 physical education teachers increased their skills and knowledge to conduct inclusive sport activities during the seminar. Local medical universities and colleges were actively involved in inclusive health activities. More than 60 general practitioners, ophthalmologists and 200 students of Semey State Medical University and Ust-Kamenogorsk medical college increased their skills in providing general medical care and screening of children and adults with disabilities on vision and hearing. As a result, over 300 children with intellectual and developmental disabilities from Semey

and Ust-Kamenogorsk underwent Healthy Athletes screenings in 5 medical disciplines. Children with disabilities also received hands on education on how to improve their health through healthy habits (correct teeth brushing and flossing) and physical activities. Some of them were referred to follow up treatment after general screenings. The conducted activities underlined the importance of developing inclusive medicine in the region for children and adults with disabilities. Following the activities, parents of children with intellectual disabilities opened a Resource Centre to provide families with consultative and learning programs in cooperation with the NGO “Shag navstrechu” (“Step forward”). UNICEF supported the center through provision of learning and development materials for parents and their children with disabilities.

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Pic 10. Children with disabilities participating in inclusive programs



Pic 11: Medical students conducting screening of children with disabilities with the help of experts

Following the release and presentation of the results of two studies conducted by UNICEF in partnership with Ombudsman office on violence against children in state-run institutions (2011) and in schools (2013)³, the Government decided to implement with the support of UNICEF a pilot violence prevention programme in seven schools and three institutions in EKO (Ust-Kamenogorsk, Semey, Ridder, Serebryansk), selected by the akimat education department. The main aim of the programme was to prevent violence in schools by providing school personnel with the knowledge and tools to identify and respond to incidents of school violence; and to provide at-risk and high-risk students with interventions that encourage behavior change and accountability. UNICEF provided support through providing top notch international expertise to design and test methodology for violence prevention, as well as intensive trainings of master trainers from East Kazakhstan State University and follow up trainings of teachers and children in pilot schools, development of guides and manuals for teachers to conduct school classes for children and referral and follow-up mechanisms within and out of schools. The programme consisted of 16 components starting from creation of school safety teams to establishing a system of response to high-risk students. University experts and 10 pilot organizations were trained for understanding and addressing issues related to the prevention of violence. The teachers, students and parents were provided with a guide developed to better understand their role and identify early signs of violence and indecent treatment. The protocol on the detection and redirection of cases to out-of-school, non-educational institutions and services developed. As a result of the program the following results were achieved during the program implementation:



Pic 12: Poster against violence in school corridor

- 100% identification of violence cases was achieved in all participating schools;
- 100% of pilot schools/institutions introduced the time-table and lesson plans for training teachers/employees and students on the issues of school violence and prevention;
- 580 teachers and 3,192 students were trained on the issues of school violence;
- due to the improved identification of violence in pilot institutions: there was observed an increase by 164% in the number of registered school violence cases and increase by 183% in the registered number of students who had injuries by other students;
- 36 students at risk and 20 students at high risk were identified;
- there was a 94% increase in the number of at risk and high risk students referred to non-educational organizations and social services;
- 90% of pilot schools clearly defined the mechanisms for dealing with the students with aggressive behavior that resulted in 62% decrease in the number of students registered with the police in all the pilot schools and institutions (from 62 to 23).

Based on the successful results of the pilot programme on prevention of violence against children in educational institutions implemented in East Kazakhstan oblast, a strategy was developed for scale up of the programme to other regions of Kazakhstan and National Center for Professional Advancement “Orleu” was

³ In 2012 UNICEF study revealed that 66% of 4207 surveyed children in schools suffer from violence from peers and 24% are subject to violence and discrimination from school personnel.

nominated as a coordinator of the program scale-up to other regions. The experience of East Kazakhstan oblast was scaled up to Kyzylorda, Mangystau oblasts and Almaty city.

During 2011-2015 the situation of children in justice systems improved. The number of minors who had committed offences in EKO decreased from 748 in 2012 to 340 in 2015. UNICEF supported local authorities in



Pic 13: Children playing game in Diversion center in EKO

strengthening justice for children systems through introduction of social work in justice systems and testing alternative measures to imprisonment for minors who committed crimes of light and medium gravity. These approaches included diversion scheme⁴, probation and setting child-friendly environment in juvenile courts, police and probation offices in EKO. As a result, 144 adolescents in contact with the law, including witnesses and victims of crime, and 76 families were provided access to socio-pedagogical, psychological, and legal services to foster their rehabilitation and reintegration into community. These services were arranged, *inter alia*, by newly established diversion

center in Ust-Kamenogorsk on the base of existing NGO Phoenix and Penal Reform International in Central Asia (PRI). The community-based *diversion* center became one of the first facilities in the country providing rehabilitation and psychological services, and social work to children in conflict with the law in line with international standards. The center is supporting diversion at pre-trial stage of children who have committed minor or medium gravity crimes in Ust-Kamenogorsk city and in Zyryanovsk, and who have been referred to the center by the juvenile police. It provides social work for children, develops child profile reports for the police, prosecutors and courts, supports children in the education process, and organizes structured leisure activities. Its experience has been shared horizontally with other regions of Kazakhstan for professionals working with such children. Similar centers are now being established in Zyryanovsk rayon of EKO, Kyzylorda and Mangystau oblasts.

Probation is another service that has been tested in EKO with the support of UNICEF. It is aimed at reducing re-offending of juveniles at post-trial stage, while reintegrating them into society, through individual case management of each child. It is done through involvement of a psychologist and social worker specialized in working with children in conflict with the law under supervision of probation officer. Piloting pre-trial and court probation work was introduced to stakeholders during an expanded co-ordination meeting held in February 2016, in Ust-Kamenogorsk.

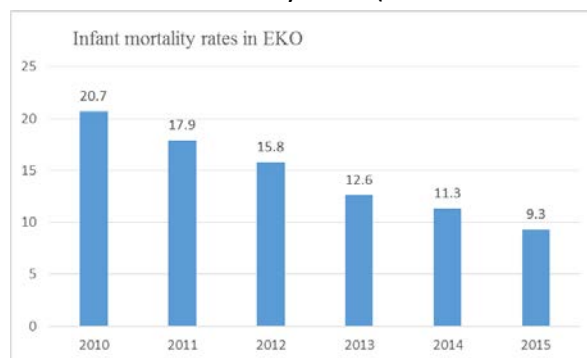
UNICEF also supported specialized juvenile courts in Ust-Kamenogorsk and Semey and probation office in Ust-Kamenogorsk through equipping and opening *child-friendly rooms* in compliance with international standards. Developing child-friendly environment in juvenile courts, police and probation offices was aimed at creating non-intimidating and child-sensitive atmosphere for children in contact with the law, including child offenders, child witnesses and victims of crime. Child-friendly rooms in court allow children to participate in court proceedings distantly in a safe and comfortable environment for a child.

⁴ Diversion means the conditional channeling of children in conflict with the law away from formal judicial proceedings towards a different way of resolving the issue that enables many to be dealt with by non-judicial bodies, thereby avoiding the negative effects of formal judicial proceedings and a criminal record, provided that human rights and legal safeguards are fully respected.

The functions of the existing coordination mechanism on child rights and justice for children was further strengthened in EKO region. A number of expanded coordination meetings were conducted under the Commission on Issues of Minors of city and oblast level akimats. Coordination meetings aimed to analyze the situation and strengthen inter-agency cooperation in protecting child rights and developing alternative justice for children in conflict with the law, as well as discussion on further development of diversion and probation practices for minors. The capacity of specialized legal professional and governmental institutions in EKO was further strengthened with the support of UNICEF and links were established with training institutions. Capacity of local juvenile judge, local level authority and NGO representatives were enhanced through the organized study tour on Justice for Children to the Federal Republic of Germany that demonstrated justice for children in policy and practice and to the Kingdom of Norway to familiarize with the protection mechanisms for victims and witnesses and with the Children’s Ombudsman system.

All these interventions followed with changes in skills, knowledge and behavior of local professionals contributed to more than 50% decrease in the number crimes committed by children in EKO.

Output 3.2 Over 2011-2015 EKO achieved significant decrease in infant mortality rate (more than 50%) in contrast to being the oblast with second highest infant mortality rate in the country in 2010. To combat high infant mortality rate, the region implemented number of systemic changes with the support of UNICEF. Through the provision of technical expertise UNICEF assisted local government to develop a Road Map to improve the performance of Mother and Child Health (MCH) services and provided capacity building to local medical personnel. Overall, 80% of health workers of mother and child health (MCH) facilities (MCH Center of EKO, Perinatal center of Semey and rural maternities of Urdzhar, Ayagoz, Ridder, Abay rayons) improved their skills in Integrated Management of Child Illnesses/Care for Development practices and 76% improved their skills on introduction of effective perinatal care. The region also reorganized the Mother and Child Health (MCH) Center in Ust-Kamenogorsk into a multifaceted center for provision of continuous mother and child care services which allowed access of children and mothers to high-quality medical assistance and early detection of developmental delays. A team of master trainers were prepared to provide routine support and supervision to staff of rural maternities and hospitals.



Pic 14: Infant mortality rates in EKO



Pic 15: Mother surveyed on the quality of patronage home services

For further improving the quality of mother and child health services in the region UNICEF supported the introduction of WHO tools for periodic assessment of antenatal and perinatal care quality in EKO. This was done through practical trainings for local health specialists and monitoring their implementation in practice. These tools were incorporated into the quality control system of primary health care and were adopted by the Ministry of Health care. Six master trainers from EKO were prepared for scale up this approach to other maternal hospitals.

With a view to increase access to mother and child health services with regards to quality home visiting services for pregnant mothers and

mothers with newly born children, with the support of UNICEF more than 60 health workers in Semey city and 8 rural districts (Abay, Beskaragay, Borodulikha, Urdzhar, Zharma, Kurchatov, Zaysan, Ayagoz) increased their knowledge and skills on nursing children from 0-2 months, managing child illnesses and teaching mothers to take care of their own and children's health.

The quality of home-visiting service in the region was assessed twice with identification of gaps in implementation and follow up trainings. More than 200 mothers with children up to 5 years were surveyed on the quality of delivered services by community nurses in 4 selected areas (Katon-Karagai, Ayagoz, Urdjar and Makanchi). Comparison of the baseline and end line results showed significant improvements in priority indicators: the level of satisfaction of recipients by first health visit by the community nurse in the first 3 months of pregnancy increased from 69.7% in 2014 to 92.1% in 2015; the level of satisfaction for the assistance to the mother in filling in the Child Development Diary increased from 40.8% to 76.1% in 2015, for explanation of optimal feeding practices of children at the age of 6-11 months increased from 64.4% to 80.3%, for inclusion in the daily diet of 6-11-month-old child at least 4 food groups from 59.2% to 80.3%. The introduction and piloting of new methodology to assess the coverage and quality of home visiting system also enabled establishing the team of national experts (master trainers, supervisors, interviewers) in the country who implemented the second stage of the project (2015) independently (without the involvement of international experts) and will contribute to scaling up of the pilot to other regions of Kazakhstan. All these interventions contributed to incremental decrease in infant mortality and improvement of health of mothers and children in the region.

In 2016, UNICEF together with the National Academy of Nutrition supported a study on the prevalence of anemia and iodine deficiency among children under 5 and women of reproductive age in East Kazakhstan and Kyzylorda oblasts. It covered 252 women and 252 children from urban and rural areas in East Kazakhstan oblast. The study showed that 52.4% of children aged 6-59 months, 73% of pregnant women and 68.4% of non-pregnant women of reproductive age had anemia in East Kazakhstan oblast. The level of anemia was higher among children aged 6-23 (62%) than 24-59 months (52.6%). Among pregnant women, the prevalence of anemia was higher than among non-pregnant women. According to WHO, UNICEF and UNU (1996) [25] in determining the significance for public health, the prevalence of anemia over 40% should be assessed as "high", prevalence of 15-40% as "moderate", and prevalence less than 15% as "low". The prevalence of anemia, both among children under the age of five, and among women of reproductive age, is considered a high-risk public health problem in East Kazakhstan and Kyzylorda oblasts of Kazakhstan. The prevalence of iodine deficiency among women aged 15-49 in the East Kazakhstan region in 2016 was 20.6% and it is classified as a moderate risk to public health according to international WHO / UNU / UNICEF criteria. Based on the results of the study, UNICEF provided recommendations to the regional health department of the East Kazakhstan oblast for reducing iron deficiency anemia and iodine deficiency in women and children. UNICEF announced the recommendations at a gathering that brought together the public, deputies of the oblast maslikhat, and representatives of government bodies. These recommendations were included in the Health Management Road map for 2017.

Implementation of the UNFPA project component ensured reaching **Result 3.2** by increasing the efficiency of the integrated perinatal care services in maternities of the Eastern Kazakhstan region. In 2012, a Resource Information Centre on Reproductive Health was established and equipped at the Regional Center of Mother and Child Health. The Centre provided free access of professionals to the WHO Reproductive Health Library.

The information center is used for regular training activities on evidence-based medicine. UNFPA has supported the training of 20 obstetricians and gynecologists, neonatologists and trainers using 40-hour program of the WHO-recommended reproductive health library, to enable experts use evidence-based approaches in their practice. The training was conducted by international consultants invited by UNFPA. To ensure the sustainability of the project an academic staff of the Medical University of Semey city were involved in the training process.

The electronic WHO Reproductive Health Library <http://apps.who.int/rhl/ru> as one of the most important joint WHO-Cochrane Collaboration projects was made available at the Information Centre for specialists to enable them to apply the methods of prevention, diagnosis and treatment based on evidence. The Center of Mother and Child Health as the regional resource centre was enabled to collect, store and disseminate information necessary for effective provision of services among concerned organizations of the region working in the field of sexual and reproductive health (SRH). The second Resource Center for maternal and child health service providers in Eastern Kazakhstan was established and equipped at the Perinatal Center of Semey city in 2014. The two resource centers were purchased by equipment and furniture worth more than 4 million tenge.

In 2014, UNFPA supported the purchase of the simulating mannequins called Advanced Phantom Delivery (USA) at one million tenge each for two obstetrical organizations of the region: for Mother and Child Centre of Oskemen city and the Perinatal Centre of Semey city. Acquired mannequins are designed to improve the skills of medical staff and interns during the regular training courses. In addition, UNFPA supported the purchase of simulation mannequins for PHC clinics and ambulatories of the region to develop family planning skills at the total cost of half a million tenge.

For improvement of the access and quality of the MCH services and the safeguard universal access to the reproductive health services UNFPA supported the appropriate capacity building on delivering the integrated maternal health services in the region. The two leading maternities (perinatal centres) of the region, i.e. the Mother and Child Centre of Oskemen City and Perinatal Centre of Semey City made a huge effort for improvement of management quality and were awarded by the certificate of the standard ISO 9001-2008. Both centres were certified by *Eurasia MS*, the international body, the partner of *Quality Austria*, which was accredited by the *European Accreditation Society (EA)* and the *International Accreditation Forum (IAF)*. Since both Centres are the leading maternities, their successful experience was acknowledged and will be replicated by other organizations of the region.

The course on Effective Perinatal Care (EPC) has been introduced in Kazakhstan since 2011, within the WHO Safe Motherhood strategy. To date, there is a sufficient number of trained health professionals. However, evaluation of the effectiveness of the training revealed the need for improved quality control of implementation of the effective perinatal care. Therefore, UNFPA supported Advanced Training Course in Eastern Kazakhstan region that was developed and facilitated by multi-disciplinary teams of maternities (Obstetrician-Gynecologist, Neonatologist, and midwife). The Advance Training Course was developed by the group of national EPC trainers based on the main EPC course, taking into consideration results of perinatal care quality assessment. The principal approach of the advanced course is strengthening capacity of the maternities in improvement of internal quality management with development of skills for analysis of effectiveness to reveal problems in provision of perinatal care. The participants of the course were deputy heads of the Centres

that keep responsibility for clinical work and for quality, Ob/Gyns, midwives, neonatologists, neonatal nurses of ICUs, and epidemiologists. The total of three courses for the key maternities of Eastern Kazakhstan, namely the Mother and Child Centre of Oskemen City and Perinatal Centre of Semey City, were held.

UNFPA supported development of the 5-days training course on antenatal care for obstetrician-gynecologists and midwives by international and national consultants based on the latest WHO recommendations. The course was adapted to the conditions of the country and the Eastern-Kazakhstan region. Focus was given to routine examination of pregnant women, assessment of gestation period, review of risk factors, screening and pre-eclampsia management, diagnosis and treatment of infections and sexually transmitted diseases, monitoring of fetal growth. Moreover, the module was strengthened in parts of antenatal and post-natal counseling with presentation on main principles and methods of counseling. The training was piloted in Oskemen City and was rated by the participants as a highly effective training methodology. After the training, the training package was finalized and submitted to the Ministry of Health and Social Development for review and approval at the national level.

UNFPA supported development of a training package on Family Planning (FP) based on the latest WHO recommendations. UNFPA mobilized international and national expertise for developing course materials, adopting and testing of the training modules during the regional training conducted in Oskemen City for OB/Gyn, GP, and midwives providing PF counseling and prescribing contraceptives at the PHC level. The main product of the training package is the Guide for Trainers. This Guide provides the goals and objectives of the training, schedule and criteria for selection of course participants, description of training methods, contents of training, the algorithms on counselling skills and training skills, pre-test and post-test assessments, case studies, as well as topics and methodologies for role-playing.

UNFPA supported study tours for representatives of health management and maternities of the East Kazakhstan Oblast to Moldova and Estonia in order to learn the best practices of European countries on ensuring access of population to FP services. During the study tours, health professionals learned about effective models of delivering family planning services at the primary health care level, and youth friendly clinics. Special attention was given to the issues of continuity of FP services, quality management and incentive system, best practices, monitoring and evaluation of the efficiency of the FP services, guaranteed provision of contraceptives to general population and vulnerable groups and contraceptives commodity and logistics management systems.

Output 3.3 Suicide is one of the alarming issues adolescents and young people face in EKO. To tackle this issue UNICEF supported the central and EKO local government in identifying the underlying causes, risk and protective factors in respect to suicides. The study covered five most affected provinces of Kazakhstan (those with highest rates of suicides), including EKO. However, all three components of the study were done only in EKO with a particular school-based component conducted for over one year in four administrative districts of EKO (Ust-Kamenogorsk and Ridder cities, Ulanskyi and Glubokovskiy districts). It covered over 3,000 adolescents from 30 education institutions and included a prevention component to follow up to adolescents who were identified at high risk of suicidal behavior. The programme allowed not only identify key causes and risk factors leading to suicidal behavior in children but also gaps in the system provision which still does not allow to effectively follow up minors and prevent them from risky behaviors. The key leading causes of suicides

in adolescents and youth were related to mental health problems. Thus at least mild or moderate symptoms of depression were reported for almost 70% of high risk pupils and for 37% of suicide cases, and about 20% of high risk pupils showed severe depression. UNICEF further supported continuation of school-based suicide prevention programme to ensure adolescents identified at high risk are followed by school staff and mental health specialists. Building capacity of school psychologists of 30 educational organizations was continued with special emphasis on newly joined staff in respect to provision of follow up and psychological assistance to adolescents at risk of suicidal behavior. In total 4 intensive training seminars were conducted where over 70 school psychologists, psychiatrists and heads of healthcare sectors improved their skills and knowledge on suicide prevention. Confidential internet-based psychological counseling was organized and communication materials printed for parents and adolescents.

During 2012-2013 the suicide programme implementation was assessed by independent international consultant. East Kazakhstan was the first place to test the preventative approaches and conduct a research on suicide causes which drew important lessons learned. The assessment study confirmed that the implemented programme was not much helpful for the adolescents at risk in the region due to the fact that the school psychologists were left to tackle adolescents at risk without almost any support from other sectors. Mental health workers outside the school system claimed to have no time or authority to support the school psychologists in these situations. On the other hand, the experience of Kyzylorda region, which later adopted the same preventative measures with the support of UNICEF in 2013 and had significant decrease in suicide rates among adolescents, showed to what effect collaboration between sectors and guidance from the regional government benefits everyone involved. The study highlighted the importance of destigmatizing suicide not only among the general public, parents, adolescents, school staff, public sector workers, but also among those who work directly with adolescents with mental health problems, namely psychiatrists and psychologists in the health sector. The results of the study and work on prevention of suicide among adolescents in East Kazakhstan and Kyzylorda regions were presented at the meeting of Parliament of the Republic of Kazakhstan and UNICEF recommendations were incorporated into the National plan of activities for strengthening family relationships, ethical, spiritual and moral values in the Republic of Kazakhstan for 2015-2020 and for phased introduction of suicide prevention measures throughout the country. In 2015 Ministry of Healthcare and Social Development, Ministry of Education and Science and Ministry of Interior issued joint order of the on phased introduction of the Programme on Prevention of Suicide among adolescents and young people in the Republic of Kazakhstan which defined development of a set of measures for the education and healthcare sector with the assistance of UNICEF. According to the joint order the programme on prevention of suicide among minors will be introduced in East-Kazakhstan oblast in 2017.

The colleges of the East Kazakhstan region implemented training on SRH, in order to form life skills needed for development of safe behavior and protection of reproductive health of adolescents and young people. To this end, UNFPA introduced the education sector specialists of the oblast with the respective experience of Ukraine; mobilized international and national experts to review the existing Valeology curriculum currently taught in the colleges of the East Kazakhstan, and to adapt it to UNESCO standards on sexuality education. As a result, the revised curriculum and the guidelines for teachers have been reviewed and approved by education authorities of East Kazakhstan oblast.

This designed Valeology course with strengthened SRH component was successfully piloted by trained teachers in the College of Service Sector of Oskemen City, the East Kazakhstan Humanitarian College, and Pedagogic

College named after Auezov of Semey City. As a result, more than 1000 college students, both Russian and Kazakh speakers, were introduced to topics of SRH, reproductive rights and gender issues. The quantitative assessment of the level of respective knowledge among students of pilot colleges revealed a high effectiveness of the training.

Positive experience of the Valeology project was presented at the regional conference with participation of representatives of the Ministry of Education and Science, the Ministry of Health and Social Protection of the RK and Akim's Office of East Kazakhstan Oblast. The conference based on Project findings acknowledged the need for introduction of sexuality education into the school curriculum.

Inspired by the positive outcome of the Valeology project UNFPA initiated a national conference to discuss the opportunities for introduction of comprehensive sexuality education into the school education in Kazakhstan, which was held on 20 November 2015. The conference was led by the National Commission on Women Affairs and Family-Demographic Policy under the President of Kazakhstan and facilitated by a member of Lower Chamber of Parliament (Mazhilis) who actively supports the issues of young people's SRH improvement and ensuring their reproductive rights. She pointed that the SRH status of adolescents and young people in Kazakhstan is a priority of the Government, therefore, a proper education of young people on SRH issues should become a priority goal of the State leading to improvement of reproductive health status of the population and demographic situation in general. In conclusion, all presenters acknowledged the need for introduction of comprehensive sexuality education into the school curriculum.

UNFPA jointly with Youth Department of Eastern Kazakhstan developed a mobile application called *100 Questions and Answers* that highlights various issues related to young people. It pays a particular attention to protection of SRH. The app is available freely through Google Play and IOs on the AppStore.

UNFPA supported involvement of youth and adolescents of East Kazakhstan Oblast in the international volunteer movement Y-PEER that had already involved young people from other regions of Kazakhstan. Around 600 young people, of whom one third were pupils of boarding schools and adolescents of orphan houses, received information about Y-PEER from its members. Leadership skills and the capacity of young people to convey information on protection of reproductive health to their peers have been strengthened. Y-PEER leaders are now capable of and take an active part in the formulation of their position and maintaining a dialogue with the Government regarding the issues of reproductive health and reproductive rights.

Young activists from the Y-PEER network of East Kazakhstan who deliver to their peers informal education on prevention of unwanted pregnancy, STIs and HIV took part in the second National Youth Forum that addressed a request to the policy and decision makers to amend national legislation on access of adolescents to services and information on sexual and reproductive health. Two Y-PEER activists from East Kazakhstan participated in the Global Youth Forum in Istanbul and made their contribution to formulation of the global youth policy on sexual and reproductive health of adolescents. Members of Y-PEER network of East Kazakhstan facilitated introduction of the Valeology course with the strengthened SRH component into the formal education system of the oblast. Y-PEER leaders deliver information sessions for senior classes of schools on issues of protection of SRH and take an active part in different regional and national forums.

The summer camps of technical and vocational education (TVE) of East Kazakhstan region for adolescents and young people held a series of workshops, which were aimed at promoting sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights of adolescents (SRHR), developing the principles of leadership and volunteering, as well as forming the patterns of responsible behavior among young people. To reach the most vulnerable groups, Y-PEER under support of the department of Social protection and the Center of vocational education, held 4 training courses for young people with disabilities in the city of Ust-Kamenogorsk.

UNFPA supported establishing of three Y-PEER resource centres, which were equipped and furnished, in Oskemen, Semey and Ridder cities. To increase public awareness about Y-PEER network in East Kazakhstan the information campaigns were held following establishment of the resource centres.

UNFPA jointly with the East-Kazakhstan Education Department organized and supported national debates on Motherhood in Childhood that involved 18 teams (50 speakers) from medical universities of 6 cities - Aktobe, Almaty, Astana, Semey, Karaganda, and Oskemen. The participants discussed the aforementioned topic in Kazakh language, thereby raising awareness among Kazakh speaking youth of the country. Following the debates, a musical concert was organized to support and attract new volunteers to Y-PEER network. The total of more than 650 college students of East Kazakhstan participated in the event.⁵

To deliver **Result 3.4** UNDP sees strengthening the capacity of government and non-governmental organizations in reducing inequalities and disparities in living standards as most important task focusing on the most vulnerable groups. Therefore, 203 social workers and personal assistants were trained not only to improve professional performance of their duties, but also to raise their self-esteem, awareness of the importance of their own work, psychological stability. To improve access for people with limited hearing and speech to the public services, 28 employees of Citizen Service Centers (CSCs) of the region and 21 employee of medical and social institutions were trained sign language. This practice has proved its effectiveness, and in 2015, all CSCs in Kazakhstan including sign language in the education program of their employees. UNDP staff are looking for ways of socio-economic adaptation of persons with disabilities through active usage of their own potential. One such example is training of 17 visually impaired and blind people to do wellness massage. Compensatory skills of visually impaired people give them the opportunity to massage more effectively.

Significant attention was paid to the accumulation of experience and interpretation of legal acts of legislation presented in the specially developed teaching materials. Special textbooks for work with the elderly, children and adults with special needs were developed and issued. The following manuals were issued for social workers and personal assistants in the Kazakh language "Prevention of burnout syndrome in practical social work", "Dictionary of social work", "Special Education", "Methods of development of children with disabilities", "Preparation of the individual assistants and social workers to serve the elderly and persons with disabilities at home opportunities ", "Laboratory of best practices".

There is also a need to acknowledge the support of private nursing homes (UNDP worked with 3 rural nursing homes, 15 social workers of these houses have attended specially developed master class). Raising the qualifications of their staff, UNDP created the conditions for the implementation of the plans of the Ministry of Health and Social Security of the Republic of Kazakhstan on the development of small elderly homes (low capacity homes).

⁵ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=estPvpET2QA>

Certification of 5 infrastructure objects to ensure their accessibility for people with movement disabilities arouse great interest from the government agencies and construction companies, leading to the training of 300 representatives of construction companies, design institutes.

Taking into account the results of the survey conducted among oralmans area on the needed directions 26 people were trained. 8 of them were employed immediately after the end of the course, and others have successfully applied the knowledge gained in the field of veterinary medicine and livestock at their farms. For successful adaptation of repatriates courses of the Kazakh, Russian languages and computer literacy for more than 900 people were organized. 22 000 oralmans came to UNDP center for adaptation and integration of repatriates during five years, solving such vital issues as getting oralman status, registration of permanent residence, obtaining citizenship of Kazakhstan etc. from the center's consultants. As a result, 32 individual entrepreneurs were registered and 2 limited liability partnership; 57 people found new jobs. Akimat of the region uses the methodology and experience of the Centre to create its own adaptation of repatriates Center in Oskemen; and Akimat of Semey has allocated space in which now is the center.

Apart from extensive trainings, information campaigns, round tables, workshops and conferences, there is also a NGO grant program was established in the framework of the Joint Programme. Within 7 of grant competitions 127 NGOs developed their project proposals, offering 180 social development projects. 30 projects were approved worth more than 80 million tenge, providing the following results:



Pic 18. Business Incubator for people with disabilities in the city of Oskemen awarded the prize of the best social project in the region and has been praised by the Ministry of Labor and Social Protection of Kazakhstan

- Employment of 32 people with disabilities not only provided income to these people, but also the possibility of socialization and the realization of their capabilities;
- Together with the management of the Division of Coordination of Employment and Social Programs of the region a model of business-incubators supporting entrepreneurs with disabilities has been tested and established. 10 persons with disabilities work here and provide services to the population. This project is considered one of the best in the region and was nominated to the Ministries the best country's social project of the year competition;
- 3 remedial classes for children with special needs and one class for children with autism were opened and equipped with special textbooks and equipment in Semey. 38 teachers were trained in the method of working with children with disabilities;

- 5 social facilities have been equipped with the necessary equipment, providing a more comfortable living conditions and livelihoods for elderly, persons with disabilities, children;
- To ensure the jobs of the most vulnerable categories of citizens 3 sewing workshops (in Ayaguz and Zaisan districts and the city of Ust-Kamenogorsk) were opened, in which working women with disabilities and repatriates, a workshop for repairmen of cellular phones and a Photo shop, as well as pottery shop in Semey. 12 people with disabilities working in the field of eco-tourism were opened in Zaisan and Abay districts;
- At least 2 projects called "Altyn Oymak" and "Kazakh Syrmak" contributed to the preservation of traditional Kazakh heritage, providing the work for 10 rural oralman-women;
- The first Day Care Center for the Elderly and People with Disabilities in Kazakhstan was established, that satisfies national standards and requirements;
- Museum named after Nevzorovs family and theater named after Abay, Citizen Service Center of Semey, East Kazakhstan Regional Library named after Pushkin in Oskemen became examples of "barrier-free environment" for persons with limitations on the movement or perception.



Pic 19. The specialized class for children with autism and the remedial class in Semey, with special equipped within the NGO grant projects supported by UNDP

An important part of the Joint Programme was aimed at promotion of business development in the region, which is largely dependent on the availability of knowledge, access to information and to finance. Business trainings and consultations were attended by 15,845 residents. Through active network of business advisers (2011-2014 years), the activities of 45 online centers in all districts, as well as the three phases of an interest-free credit program (2013-2015), the following results were attained:

- 45 online centers have become significant community centers for their villages. Local librarians and business consultants conducted 13 044 training and for 25 130 people;
- Supported 27 business projects, including 15 business projects implemented start-up businesses, 20 - in rural areas;
- Loans issued provided jobs for 161 people, including 5 peoples with disabilities;
- Through a consultative and educational services of business consultants, employees of online centers and the PF "Development of Youth Entrepreneurship" – implementer of business support programme 153 new individual entrepreneurs and partnerships with limited liability were set up;
- 105 persons from the Centers of service of entrepreneurs and employees from onlince-centers in the regions of the area attended various training courses. One of results of productive cooperation between employees of online centers and consultants is the project "Business Advisor", initiated by the National Chamber of Entrepreneurs "Atameken" and by the Ministry of National Economy. Seminar-training for startups, for graduates of agriculture colleges are conducted on the basis of the rural online centers. For example, in Ulan district 5 seminars for 127 participants in Zyryanovsk district were

conducted, 6 seminars "From idea to implementation" with the participation of more than 60 people, as well as a round table for the students "100 ideas for business" with the participation of 58 people.



Pic 20. Projects on honey packaging in ergonomic stick-packs, insulation of buildings and recycling of waste paper under the component to support to micro businesses in the East Kazakhstan region

Objective 4: Increased awareness among the local population of the aims and objectives of the project and their links to improvements in living standards and health status

During the entire programme period the local and national population increased awareness on the implementation of the UN Joint Program for regularly updated information on the implementation of projects and activities on the website of UNICEF, Facebook «UN Semey Joint Programme» UNDP page (3,990 followers), press releases, articles and advertisements in local and national press and on the Web pages. Additionally, to increase population's attention to the importance of programs and activities, high level officials, celebrities, Olympic champions, public figures, international experts were invited to the meetings, conferences and forum among whom was Ms. Olga Rypakova, Olympic champion from East Kazakhstan oblast and others. Unconventional PR campaigns, such as theater productions on the results of the program, a flashmob Festival # Abay170, held at Nazarbayev University and the International flashmob in social media dedicated to the 170th anniversary of the great Kazakh poet Abay, photo contests and traveling exhibitions, to promote the development of tourism, summer schools for college students, and the subsequent on-line master-classes and many other activities. Brochures presenting the results of the program for 2011-2015 years.

To raise awareness of East Kazakhstan Oblast population on issues related to protection of sexual and reproductive health, UNFPA organized a media campaign on results of the UNFPA-supported components of the Joint programme between the UN and the Government of Kazakhstan. Within the campaign, two video programmes of the total of 40 minutes with focus on achievements of the project in the East Kazakhstan Oblast made under UNFPA support were developed. At the regional TV, there was broadcast video dedicated to problems of the adolescent pregnancy.⁶ There were held a number of press-conferences dedicated to different aspects of the project in Eastern-Kazakhstan Oblast.

More than 100 media representatives improved their skills and knowledge on ethical principles in media coverage of child issues of preventing abandonment of children aged 0-3, inclusive society development, issues of adolescents and youth, issues of health and prevention of suicide among the youth. In a series of workshops

⁶ 'http://semeytv.kz/ru/archive/programs/programs_social/Kala_jane_kalalyktar/218820 – KAZ version'
'http://semeytv.kz/ru/archive/programs/programs_social/Kala_jane_kalalyktar/218826 – RUS version'.

devoted to “Communication for Development: Media Products for Children, about Children and with Children” to strengthen the capacities of local partners in creation of communication materials for children and about children based on their needs more than 60 TV and newspaper photographs, journalists, animators, designers, filmmakers, sound producers, scenarists, representatives of state bodies and NGOs working with children from Semey, Ust-Kamenogorsk, and Ridder participated in creation of social video products on children and illustrated articles for children. The media products were broadcasted in local TV channels and disseminated with the support of EKO Akimat.

Indicator Based Performance Assessment

Indicator Based Performance Assessment: UNDP

	Achieved Indicator Targets	Reasons for Variance with Planned Target (if any)	Source of Verification
<p>Outcome 1. Capacities of local executive and legislative bodies enhanced for local level planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation, while ensuring better protection of the rights and interests of vulnerable groups of the population.</p> <p>Indicator: Number of trained representatives of a local executive and representative authority; number of indicators for efficiency monitoring.</p> <p>Output 1.1 Local government officials are trained in the knowledge and skills necessary to carry out more effective planning and budgeting, taking into account the needs and interests of vulnerable groups.</p> <p>Indicator 1.1.1 Workshops conducted for akimats at the oblast, city, and district levels on local strategic planning, monitoring and evaluation, in close coordination with central executive authorities and taking into account national MDGs.</p> <p>Indicator 1.1.2. Capacity building workshops for district level and regional-level maslikhats to improve the quality of control over budget expenditure</p>	<p>443 representatives of local executive and representative bodies of regional districts participated in 15 workshops.</p>	<p>Achieved</p>	<p>List of participants, pictures from the events, media reports, official page on Facebook</p>
<p>Output 1.3. Regional and district level government agencies are empowered to collect, process, and make available improved data for planning and monitoring of local development plans.</p> <p>Indicator 1.3.1. Capacity building workshops for akimats at the regional, town and district levels on establishing key indicators for monitoring local development programmes which are in line with the National MDGs, and implementation of these plans.</p> <p>Planned target: a study of economic potential for 1 district to be prepared and applied</p>	<p>More than 50 participants, including experts and representatives of local government offices, Maslikhats, NGO of Semey, Mangystau and Kyzylorda oblasts took part in the round table on the topic "Local government as a factor of regional development", organized with the support of the United Nations Joint Semey program. The main purpose of the event was to discuss the prospects of local self-governance development in Kazakhstan, taking as an example Semey, Kyzylorda and Mangystau oblasts, where with the support of UNDP Joint program, piloted model of interaction between authorities and public is launched in order to address the pressing problems of the region. During the round table, representatives of the Ministry of National Economy and the law drafters presented amendments and additions to some legislative acts of Kazakhstan on the development of local self-governance. The outcome of the roundtable was to develop recommendations for development of self-governance in Kazakhstan, as well as to develop mechanisms that empower local representative bodies to address issues of local</p>	<p>Achieved</p>	<p>Report</p>

<p>Outcome 2 Local population and communities are empowered to participate in local planning and initiatives to improve local living standards.</p> <p>Indicator: Number of districts and population involved into local development component.</p> <p>Planned target for 2015: 3 districts</p> <p>Output 2.1. A flexible mechanism for financing local development initiatives is piloted at the district level in 17 districts of EKO affected by nuclear testing.</p>	<p>14 pilot districts including Semey's rural districts were identified. They were selected out of 17 based on the fact as most severely heat by the Seminpalatinsk polygon.</p>	<p>Achieved</p>	<p>List of participants pictures from the events, media reports pants,</p>
<p>Indicator 2.1.1. Hold workshops to explain to participating districts the principles of the pilot scheme, including the basis for determining financial levels for each districts (\$5 per capita for selected districts)</p> <p>Planned target for 2015: at least 1 workshop in each district</p> <p>Indicator 2.1.2. Awareness-raising in rural communities on the flexible financing mechanism, and the procedures for formulating and submitting budget applications. Support to village assemblies in establishing priority problems which can be solved through application got funding to the flexible funding mechanism.</p> <p>Planned target for 2015: cover, at least, 10 thousand people in local gatherings</p>	<p>More than 40 thousand people from the pilot rayons, including representatives of local administration, participated in the village meetings to determine local needs, to lay the ground for the project needs.</p>	<p>Achieved</p>	<p>Minutes of the meetings held at the community level</p>
<p>Indicator 2.1.3. Monitoring of meetings of the districts maslikhats to decide which budget applications from rural communities can be approved for financing.</p> <p>Indicator 2.1.4. Transfer of funds to districts</p>	<p>The project manager participated at the meeting of budget commission and maslikhat sessions to review all projects developed within the local self-government. As a result, 6 projects were approved for implementation in only 2015 with the total co-financing of \$114 mln tenge.</p>	<p>Achieved</p>	<p>Minutes of the meetings</p>
<p>Indicator 2.1.5. Monitoring of the implementation of the projects financed through the scheme by the budget control committee of the district maslikhat, the akimat and UNDP.</p>	<p>The total support from UNDP to the projects amounts to \$ 74 mln tenge, with co-financial from the local budget \$ 40 mln tenge.</p>	<p>Achieved</p>	<p>Financial report</p>
<p>Indicator 2.1.6. Monitoring of the impact of the measures and documentation of lessons learned which may be useful for national policies on promoting local self-administration.</p> <p>Indicator 2.1.7. Needs assessment of local executive bodies (akimats) and local legislative bodies (maslikhats) to be able to formulate, implement and monitor local regional plans, including those aimed at strengthening participatory approaches in local policy making.</p>	<p>The projects are monitored by special commission, consisting of UNDP representative, maslikhat deputies and initiative groups' members. There is a special format developed as a part of piloting the mechanisms of local budgets and projects.</p>	<p>Achieved</p>	<p>Minutes of the meetings</p>
<p>Output 2.2. Local self-administration is improved in 17 districts of EKO.</p> <p>Indicator 2.2.1. Workshops and training seminars for local executive and legislative bodies on budgeting, and participatory approaches to monitoring and evaluation of local development programmes.</p>	<p>138 Representatives of local executive bodies, initiative groups and NGOs of 3 rayons (Glubokovskiy, Zaryanovskiy, Shemohaihinskiy) to be piloted in 2015, participated in 12 workshops on issues of public administration, local strategic planning and monitoring, budgeting and project development.</p>	<p>Achieved</p>	<p>List of participants</p>

<p>Outcome 3. Vulnerable groups from Semey, Kurchatov, Ust-Kamenogorsk and the districts affected by nuclear testing in EKO have improved access to social and economic services</p> <p>Indicator: % NGOs, trained and providing social services to the vulnerable groups; Number of oralmsans benefiting from the services of the Centre of Social Adaptation and Integration; Number of inclusive projects identified in the areas</p> <p>Output 3.4. Piloting of innovative system of providing special social services to the elderly at home, development of a network of day centers for elderly, centers for social adaptation for the homeless.</p> <p>Indicator 3.4.1. Social survey in 14 districts to study the services needs of elderly and PWD. Support to the implementation of Employment Strategy in the eastern Kazakhstan.</p>	<p>The first training center in Kazakhstan for individual assistants and social workers on serving elderly and PWDs at home was opened in October 2012 in Ust-Kamenogorsk. Since the opening 192 social workers and personal assistants, 26 government officials, 17 people with a vivid expression of impaired visual function were trained to wellness massage on the basis of the educational methodological center of the NGO "ASRIV". It should be noted that the teaching learning materials have been released. The project's objective was providing access to social and economic services, the formation of professionals in the service of professionalism, partnership and responsibility in working with the elderly.</p>	<p>Achieved</p>	<p>Media report</p>
<p>Indicator 3.4.2. Analysis of the existing system of social services for the elderly, PWD, homeless, and formulation of recommendation on how to improve them on the basis of the international practice of UNDP and UNV in providing services for the above categories.</p> <p>Indicator 3.4.3. Design and piloting of models for offering help and support to the elderly, PWD, homeless, on the basis of cooperation between executive authorities, local citizens, elderly, homeless, NGOs, local companies, communities, volunteers and drawing on international experience</p>	<p>The analysis of five existing special needs for the vulnerable in EKO allowed to systematize social services practices and elaborate methodological recommendations for their improvement based on international best practices. This work was carried out in close cooperation with the EKO Department of coordination of employment and social services, rayon akimats and NGOs active in the region. One of the important players in addressing vulnerable groups of the population are non-governmental organizations which often offer innovative and optimal solutions. UNDP supports the most promising and sustainable projects by allocating grant funds. In 2015 13 social projects totaling 17 774 203 tenge were financed.</p>	<p>Achieved</p>	<p>Publications; media report</p>
<p>Indicator 3.4.4. Provision of workshops in order to strengthen institutional capabilities of local executive authorities in designing programmes on de-institutionalization of medical-social services.</p>	<p>Workshops and round-tables were organized to strengthen the capacity and awareness of local executive bodies in designing the programmes on deinstitutionalization of medical-social services and improving standards for the special social services for homeless. In 2015, 2 seminars with participation of local government representatives, ministry of architecture and ministry of health were organized in Semey and Ust-Kamenogorsk. These activities were jointly organized by the Department of employment coordination and social services of EKO, Ministry of Labor and Social Protection of the Population of RK and UNDP.</p>	<p>Achieved</p>	
<p>Indicator 3.4.5. Design and translation of training programmes with several modules for training individual helpers to provide home services for elderly people and PWD.</p> <p>Indicator 3.4.6. Workshops to train individual helpers to provide home services for elderly and PWD (possibly including people in pre-pension age and family members).</p> <p>Indicator 3.4.7. Awareness-raising on provision of social services for elderly and PWD through information campaigns on changing public opinion and mobilizing public support, including through publicity on the convention on the rights of PWD, Madrid plan of action for problems of aging.</p> <p>Indicator 3.4.8. Design of a training module for NGOs, social workers on monitoring the quality of home and other services provided locally.</p> <p>Output 3.5. More than 22 000 oralmsans in the territory of EKO receive adaptation services in the Center for Adaptation and Social Integration in Semey city.</p>	<p>A number of newspaper articles and television reports to highlight the quality of social services for the elderly and disabled were produced.</p> <p>In 2015 courses for vocational training self-employed oralmsans were organized. More than 480 oralmsans participated in the training. The purpose of the event was to increase professionalism, professional mobility, competitiveness and social protection as a result of social protection of the repatriates through vocational training.</p> <p>Considering the needs of 43 repatriates (86% - women, 14% - men), 2 kinds of training courses on increasing computer literacy and language were organized. Based on the survey results upon completion of training the course participants noted the great benefit of acquired knowledge, relevance and timeliness of their implementation. Repatriates, especially women, significantly stepped up and asked to organize English language courses.</p>	<p>Achieved</p>	<p>List of participants</p>
<p>Indicator 3.5.1. Russian/Kazakh languages courses, computer literacy courses, legal and psychological services for oralmsans.</p>	<p>According to statistics for 2015, EKO is home to about 14,500 repatriates. In 2009 UNDP supported opening of Centre of adaptation and social integration of repatriates in Semey city.</p>	<p>Achieved</p>	<p>Publication; media report</p>

<p>Indicator 3.5.2. Consultation and support services for oralman on setting up business, marketing, and credit opportunities, with particular attention to the needs and participation of women.</p>	<p>From 2009 to 2013 the Centre provided more than 13,257 consulting, 12920 adaptation services for repatriates.</p>	<p>Achieved</p>	<p>List of participants</p>
<p>Indicator 3.5.3. Design and publication of materials on step-by-step procedures for adaptation; civil registration in order to have access to basic social services; changes in legislation, etc.</p>	<p>For the year 2015 about 4 373 consultations to 4 362 oralman (1 783 females, 2579 male) were provided.</p>	<p>Achieved</p>	<p>Publication; media report</p>
<p>Indicator 3.5.4. Round table discussions with professional associations on defining, reviewing and evaluating the feasibility of various incentives to involve oralman in the private sector.</p>	<p>Educational seminars were organized to improve access to economic services for adaptation of repatriates. Thus, 5 seminars on the basics of entrepreneurship covered 179 repatriates in 2015 in cooperation with Land department of Semei Akimat, Department of entrepreneurship, Department of Internal Affairs of Semei city.</p>	<p>Achieved</p>	<p>Registration at the Centre</p>
<p>Indicator 3.5.5. Workshops specializing on human rights, legal rights, practical operation of social organizations, management, planning and participation of interested stakeholders in developing leadership, as well as through the small grants programme.</p>	<p>8 NGOs led by the repatriates were opened with the support of the Joint UN Programme. Their representatives learned mechanisms for the development and implementation of social projects and public campaigns. In 2015, 2 socially significant projects totaling 1 772 000 tenge were realized. Implementation of projects favorably affected access to social and economic services.</p>	<p>Achieved</p>	<p>Publication; media report</p>
<p>Indicator 3.5.5. Workshops specializing on human rights, legal rights, practical operation of social organizations, management, planning and participation of interested stakeholders in developing leadership, as well as through the small grants programme.</p>	<p>To facilitate access of repatriates to basic social services, socialization, and to increase legal literacy, professionalism and mobility, brochures with legal information in 6 clusters have been issued and given for free to oralman of Zaysan, Urdzharsk rayons and to oralman of Shygys settlement.</p>	<p>Achieved</p>	<p>Publication; media report</p>
<p>Output 3.6. Over 500 micro and macro enterprises (with more than 3000 people) benefit from the development of entrepreneurial skill and knowledge on climate change adaptation in 17 districts of EKO.</p> <p>Indicator 3.6.1. District-level business services provided by independent organizations selected by the project with the aim of guaranteeing professionalism and sustainability.</p> <p>Planned target for 2015: at least 1500 persons to go through consultations/trainings</p>	<p>45 online centers have become significant centers for educating and knowledge sharing in their villages. On their basis with local librarians and business consultants 13 044 trainings have been conducted and 25 130 people were trained;</p> <p>105 people from the Entrepreneurship service and online centers in the region have upgraded their qualifications by attending those online centers. One of the results of fruitful cooperation between employees of the online centers and consultants is the project "Business Consultant", initiated by the National Chamber of Entrepreneurs "Atameken" and by the Ministry of National Economy. Seminar-trainings conducted online are held for start-ups, agriculture college graduates in order to provide qualifications for agricultural specialists. For example, 5 seminars were conducted in Ulan district for 127 participants, Zyryanovsk District held 6 seminars "From idea stage to implementation stage" with participation of more than 60 people, as well as a round table for the students "100 ideas for business" with participation of 58 people.</p>	<p>Achieved</p>	<p>Registration</p>
<p>Indicator 3.6.2. Clear Strategy is developed for providing consultative services for vulnerable groups and help with business plans developed by selected independent organizations.</p> <p>Indicator 3.6.3. Support to inclusive projects in the region</p> <p>Planned target for 2015: at least 8 successful inclusive projects and 6 NGOs supplied</p> <p>Indicator 3.6.4. Training seminars on developing skills related to managing risks associated with climate change and creation of "green" jobs.</p> <p>Planned target for 2015: at least 10 capacity building events</p>	<p>In order to increase the rural population's access to social and economic services, with the support of the United Nations Joint Programme, in mid-2013, on the basis of rural libraries in support to 32 villages of the region, 32 online centers were established. UNDP purchased equipment for the centers (85 laptops, 32 projectors, 32 screens, 32 multi-function copiers and 10 satellite stations for high-speed Internet access). Centers allow the villagers to use the services of official websites of state bodies, to find useful information on how to finance their business ideas, on how to open and do business in rural areas, and simply to open all the possibilities the internet can offer.</p>	<p>Achieved</p>	<p>Financial report</p>

	<p>In order to support rural business initiatives in 2015 a competition was held for a grant in order to support SMEs' "Business Development – Eco+" with a budget of 85,000 USD, implemented through the Foundation "Development of Youth Entrepreneurship".</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 343 people were consulted in the science of creation and management of business; - 243 aspiring entrepreneurs were trained in the framework of the projects implemented with the financial support of its partners – Government Institution "Department of internal policy of EKO" and Government Institution "Department of internal policy of Semey EKO"; - 60 projects are developed by trained entrepreneurs, of which 14 have already been launched; - 10 business projects are funded; - 53,830,846 tenge were raised in the form of investments (from other sources) for the implementation of business projects for 		
<p>Outcome 4 Increased awareness among the local population of the aims and objectives of the project and their links to improvements in living standards and health status</p> <p>Indicator: Number of population and printed materials and digital materials in the media; number of trainings for the media;</p> <p>Planned target for 2015: 50 newspaper articles, 50 publications</p> <p>Output 4.1. The population regularly receives information on best practices in the sphere of social protection, health, community participation in the implementation of EKO's regional development strategy.</p> <p>Indicator 4.1.1. Preparation of TV programmes, articles, thematic publications and training materials related to the former Semipalatinsk region, including support to activities of National Good will Ambassadors of the UN in RK.</p> <p>Planned target for 2015: 1 trainings</p> <p>Indicator 4.1.2. Cooperation with the press offices of akimats, representative offices of SMEs, NGOs, to increase institutional capacity for communication (work with mass media, provision of information, media campaigns). Creation and maintenance of the programme's web-site.</p>	<p>About 100 newspaper articles, several TV reportages in regional and national media were produced both in Russian and Kazakh languages. The JP on a regular basis updates its Facebook account (UN Semey JP), and currently has 721 followers.</p> <p>6 electronic publications (pdf) in Russian in the section "Economic management" developed within the programme were placed on the UNDP website http://www.kz.undp.org/content/kazakhstan/ru/home/library/inclusivedevelopment/</p> <p>7 electronic publications (pdf) in Russian in the section "Effective management" developed within the programme were placed on the UNDP website http://www.kz.undp.org/content/kazakhstan/ru/home/library/inclusivedevelopment/</p> <p>1 publication in Kazakh was placed on the UNDP website http://www.kz.undp.org/content/kazakhstan/kk/home/library/inclusivedevelopment/ was placed on the UNDP website.</p>	<p>Achieved</p>	<p>List of participants</p> <p>Media reports, Facebook page</p>

<p>Planned target for 2015: at least 1 joint activity</p>	<p>The JP staff closely works with local and national mass media to cover the events, produces articles on topical issues of the JP, and collaborates with the press-services of the Akimats of EKO and Semey city to disseminate the press-releases, information materials at the regional level.</p> <p>More than 30 videos about the UN JP in East Kazakhstan can be found on the UNDP youtube channel https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL5bWlYrCCtd5hfM8jH3-oJrrT21x5l96l</p>	Achieved	
	<p>UNDP continues its work in strengthening the capacity of journalists, promoting coverage of relevant topics and raising public awareness of the activities of the UN Joint Programme in East Kazakhstan.</p> <p>The Akimat of East Kazakhstan region jointly with UNDP set up two nominations for the promotion of the best journalists covering such topics as creating a barrier-free environment. Three best candidates were selected based on the results of the 2nd half of the year.</p> <p>UNDP arranged a media training for 27 bloggers on effective work in the social media.</p>	Achieved	
<p>Outcome 5 Ensuring of achievement of the programmes objectives and results set. Indicator: Number of Programme Board meetings; participation of relevant ministries' in the meeting.</p> <p>Planned target for 2015: 1 programme board</p>	<p>The Programmes board was not held on regular basis, but they were conducted with participation of key partners and the final Programme board demonstrated good results</p>	Achieved	Programme board minutes
<p>Indicator 5.1.1. Creation of functioning structures for the management, like Steering Committee, for regular monitoring of process on achieving the goals and outputs of the programme.</p> <p>Planned target for 2015: not planned since achieved in 2012</p> <p>Indicator 5.1.2. Seminars with the participation of central government bodies helped on issues concerning the objectives of the programme, including regional development, etc.</p> <p>Planned target for 2015: not planned since achieved in 2012</p>	<p>Bilateral meetings of the JP team and national partners take place on a regular basis to get update on the course of events of the programme.</p>	Achieved in 2012	Programme board minutes
<p>Indicator 5.1.3. Routine data collection on the programme implementation.</p> <p>Planned target for 2015: not planned since achieved in 2012</p>	<p>The JP has the balanced system of data collection in two offices– Semey city, Astana city.</p>	Achieved in 2012	Assessment sheets

Indicator Based Performance Assessment: UNICEF

	<u>Achieved</u> Indicator Targets	Reasons for Variance with Planned Target (if any)	Source of Verification
<p>Objective 1 Capacities of local executive and legislative bodies enhanced for local level planning, implementation and monitoring and evaluation, while ensuring better protection of the rights and interests of vulnerable groups of the population</p> <p>Output 1.1 Local government officials are trained in the knowledge and skills necessary to carry out more effective planning and budgeting, taking into account the needs and interests of vulnerable groups</p>			
<p>Indicator 1.1.1 Traditional care vs. alternative care analyzed; the most cost effective policy option for child protection identified; stakeholders raised their knowledge/skills in conducting cost benefit analysis of traditional care vs. alternative care and in developing alternative care and abandonment prevention mechanisms.</p> <p>Baseline: No any analysis/ Planned Target: The analysis of traditional care vs. alternative care identified the most cost effective policy option for child protection. The capacities of stakeholders in this area are increased.</p>	Traditional care vs. alternative care analyzed; the most cost effective policy option for child protection identified; stakeholders raised their knowledge/skills in conducting cost benefit analysis of traditional care vs. alternative care and in developing alternative care and abandonment prevention mechanisms.	Achieved	Presentation at the Civil Society Forum on 28 February 2013 in Astana Reports
<p>Indicator 1.1.2 Model of per-capita financing of the schooling system in EKO demonstrated; # of pilot schools implement the model; efficiency at school level increased.</p> <p>Baseline: 0 Planned Target: 20 schools/</p>	The per-capita financing methodology was piloted by the Government in 63 schools nationally, including 12 in EKO. UNICEF was engaged in monitoring of the piloting stage to ensure the needs of vulnerable groups are taken into account in per-capita financing and provided its recommendations to the Government.	Achieved	UNICEF report on monitoring pilot schools
<p>Indicator 1.1.3 Targeted social cash transfers scheme assessed; income disparities, exclusion and inequities identified; financial affordability/sustainability of increasing the scope and extent of SP coverage examined.</p> <p>Baseline: Targeted social cash transfers provided but their efficiency especially for children is not assessed. Planned Target: The assessment of cash transfers scheme completed with identified disparities, exclusion and inequalities; recommendations on financial affordability/sustainability of increasing the scope and extend of social protection provided.</p>	The assessment of national cash transfer schemes was completed with identified disparities, exclusion and inequalities and recommendations were provided to Ministry of Health and Social development in November 2014. As a follow up to national review a study on the role of local authorities in regulation, financing and administration of social protection is conducted and recommendations provided to local and central authorities.	Achieved	UNICEF report on Analysis of social transfers for children and their families in Kazakhstan

<p>Indicator 1.1.4 Local government officials, NGO staff and community, self-help organizations raised knowledge/skills on effective needs assessment, child well-being monitoring as well as planning and budgeting in line with the CFCI principles taking into account the interests of the most vulnerable groups of children.</p> <p>Baseline: 20 % of government and 10 % NGO have knowledge/skills on effective needs assessment, child well-being monitoring as well as planning and budgeting in line with the CFCI principles.</p> <p>Planned Target: 50% of local government and 40 % of NGO/local community raised knowledge/skills on effective needs assessment, child well-being monitoring as well as planning and budgeting in line with the CFCI principles.</p>	<p>The majority of Ust-Kamenogorsk and Semey local government officials and NGOs have been continuously trained and guided on the effective needs assessment, child well-being monitoring as well as planning and budgeting in line with the CFCI principles.</p>	<p>Achieved</p>	<p>Workshop reports, city reports</p>
<p>Output 1.2 Model for effective social protection for children and families at the local level is approved</p>			
<p>Indicator 1.2.1The Social Protection mapped; existing social protection schemes (cash transfers, non-cash transfers, social services and other interventions) reviewed; the ‘Social Protection Floor’ model launched.</p> <p>Baseline: None</p> <p>Planned Target: The social protection mapped and the social protection schemes reviewed.</p>	<p>The social protection system for families with children mapped and the social protection schemes reviewed.</p>	<p>Achieved</p>	<p>UNICEF reports</p>
<p>Output 1.3 Regional and district level government agencies are empowered to collect, process, and make available improved data for planning and monitoring of local development plans</p>			
<p>Indicator 1.3.1 Indicators available and those required for measuring child wellbeing and for effective planning and monitoring, including population data reviewed. Child wellbeing monitoring system and complex system of data collection and indicators for monitoring population issues developed. Number of regional and district level government agencies collecting, processing relevant data on children for local development plans.</p> <p>Baseline: no independent CWB monitoring system</p> <p>Planned Target: a package of CWB monitoring system is available.</p>	<p>A package of CWB monitoring system was developed and piloted with proposed 51 objective and 7 subjective indicators agreed with local government of EKO and submitted for introduction in the region.</p>	<p>Achieved</p>	<p>Final report on the CWB monitoring system report</p>
<p>Outcome 2 Local population and communities are empowered to participate in local planning and initiatives to improve local living standards</p>			
<p>Output 2.3 50 % of young people in the age group 10-24 years are empowered to participate more actively</p>			
<p>Indicator 2.3.1 Number of youth centers established in rural areas.</p> <p>Baseline: 0</p> <p>Planned Target: 6 centers</p>	<p>20 centers are operational in the region created by the government based on UNICEF advocacy.</p>	<p>Achieved</p>	<p>UNICEF reports</p>

<p>Indicator 2.3.2 Personnel for 5 resource centers increased their knowledge/skills; volunteer groups created.</p> <p>Baseline: 0</p> <p>Planned Target: 30 staff of the centers.</p>	Total of 65 staff and directors of 20 Youth Resource Centres of EKO, youth NGOs from Ust-Kamenogorsk and staff of the Internal Policy Department in increased their knowledge and skills on types of youth work, concepts and principles of working with young people, types of education and styles of learning, needs analysis and initial service planning, professional roles of youth workers.	Achieved	UNICEF reports
<p>Indicator 2.3.2 Number of activities with young people and adolescents' participation; Number of young people interviewed on situation with youth in the region.</p> <p>Baseline: 0</p> <p>Planned Target: At least 10,000 adolescents and youth interviewed to improve programmes and services for young people. All key activities targeted young people include significant participation components to reflect their needs and expectations.</p>	Over 1,000 participated in needs assessment, (2012), 3,000 participated in suicide survey, (2013), 400 in online survey and 109 in focus groups under the framework of the national consultations with children, adolescents and youth.	Achieved with less numbers of young people.	UNICEF reports
Output 2.4 Capacity building for communities and local authorities in disaster risk reduction and (DRR) and preparedness for emergency situations			
<p>Indicator 2.4.1 Number of local authorities increased the knowledge/skills on DRR, HFA and DRR in education; Number of materials produced.</p> <p>Baseline: 0</p> <p>Planned Target: 50 local authorities, 10,000 materials produced.</p>	50 local authorities were trained in use of DRA tools in assessing disaster risks and provided with necessary materials. 6 850 materials were produced	Achieved	Local level meetings, briefings, reports and minutes.
<p>Indicator 2.4.2 Number of articles on DRR; video/audio spots on DRR developed.</p> <p>Baseline: 0</p> <p>Planned Target: 5 articles, 5 press releases 3 video/audio spots</p>	5 articles, 2 videos were produced.,	Achieved	Press-releases
<p>Indicator 2.4.3 Number of schools practicing emergency and DRR plans updated in line with international standards.</p> <p>Baseline: 0</p> <p>Planned Target: 20 schools.</p>	14 schools (11 additional schools), 7 pre-schools (5 additional pre-schools).	Achieved with less schools as the list of pilot schools was provided by local authorities	Schools reports, monitoring and spot-checks reports
<p>Indicator 2.4.4 Number of teachers, head teachers and children trained on DRR; Number of pilot schools on DRR - (add one more) Number of DRR and emergency preparedness plan developed.</p> <p>Baseline: 0</p> <p>Planned Target: 120 teachers, 60 schools, 4,000 children.</p>	14 schools, 7 pre-schools, 667 teachers and 6 698 children 14 emergency preparedness and DRR plans for schools developed.	Achieved	Training reports
Outcome 3. Semei, Kurchatov, Ust-Kamenogorsk and the districts affected by nuclear testing in EKO have improved access to social and economic services			
Output 3.1. Children with special needs, children and adolescents, in need of protection of their rights, have access to quality social services and support			

<p>systems in Semei, Kurchatov, Ust-Kamenogorsk and the districts most affected by nuclear testing in EKO</p>			
<p>Indicator 3.1.1 % of children with special needs mainstreamed in schools, day centers, vocational education.</p> <p>Baseline: 15% children.</p> <p>Planned Target: 30 % children.</p>	<p>91.45% of children with special needs are mainstreamed in educational institutions (56.7% of which in general secondary schools, 16% in schools and kindergartens with correctional classes).</p> <p>6% of home-based children with disabilities (46 out of 725) were covered by UNICEF-Special Olympics programs.</p>	<p>Achieved</p>	<p>Local statistics Special Olympics report</p>
<p>Indicator 3.1.2 Number of family support centers established; institutionalization of children with special needs reduced.</p> <p>Baseline: 1,945 children deprived of parental care in institutions of EKO, two FSC is established (2010).</p> <p>Planned Target: 1,500 children deprived of parental care in institutions of EKO, 10 FSC.</p>	<p>33 family support centers are established; 1191 children deprived of parental care in 2014.</p>	<p>Achieved</p>	<p>Local statistics Documented experience report from FSC (2012).</p>
<p>Indicator 3.1.3 Local level data collection/analyzing system improved and monitors the coverage of inclusive services</p> <p>Baseline: integrated data collection is not established</p> <p>Planned Target: the data collection/analyzing system is in place and indicators reflect the coverage of inclusive services</p>	<p>A package of CWB monitoring system was developed and piloted with proposed 51 objective and 7 subjective indicators agreed with local government of EKO and submitted for introduction in the region.</p>	<p>Achieved</p>	
<p>Indicator 3.1.4 Number of children who were rescued from violence/neglect/exploitation.</p> <p>Baseline: N/A</p> <p>Planned Target: 100</p>	<p>3,192 schoolchildren covered by violence prevention programme. 128 children at the age of 0-3 prevented from abandonment. The piloted program on violence prevention in schools is proposed for scale up at the national level.</p>	<p>Achieved</p>	<p>Final report on the Violence prevention programme Report provided by Semei Health department</p>
<p>Number of staff who receive proper training for child protection mechanism.</p> <p>Baseline: 200</p> <p>Planned Target: 800</p>	<p>580 teachers were trained on violence prevention in schools, all social workers (24) and psychologists (16) in primary health care organizations (26), and infant home (1) in Semei are covered by child abandonment prevention project.</p>	<p>Achieved with less numbers</p>	<p>Final report on the Violence prevention programme Report provided by Semei Health department</p>
<p>Complete list of children who are in institutions.</p> <p>Baseline: Incomplete list of children who are in institutions.</p> <p>Planned Target: Complete list of children in institutions.</p>	<p>1,848 children from all 18 institutions of EKO were profiled.</p>	<p>Achieved</p>	<p>Profiling of children deprived of parental care in institutions conducted by SGPI in 2012-2013.</p>
<p>Number of police officer who has comprehensive knowledge of child protection.</p> <p>Baseline: 0</p> <p>Planned Target: 20</p>	<p>more than 20 police inspectors received training on Violence prevention as well as on diversion of children to alternative services (diversion).</p>	<p>Achieved</p>	<p>Final reports on the Violence prevention programme and diversion center.</p>

<p>Indicator 3.1.5 Number of profiles of state run institutions available.</p> <p>Baseline: 0</p> <p>Planned Target: 21</p>	All 18 residential institutions and 3 special institutions for children in conflict with law.	Achieved	Profiling of children deprived of parental care in institutions conducted by SGPI in 2012-2013.
<p>Transformation schemes into family-oriented care services designed.</p> <p>Baseline: 0</p> <p>Planned Target: 4</p>	Long-term transformation schemes into family-oriented care services are designed for all 18 residential institutions and presented to local child right protection department.	Achieved	Consultants' report
<p>Number of families who received social support.</p> <p>Baseline: 0</p> <p>Planned Target: 300</p>	360 families in risk of child abandonment were assisted by social workers in PHC. 37 parents increased their knowledge and skills on how to take care of children with disabilities in organized Family Health Forums (2014).	Achieved	Special Olympics report Semey Health department report on child abandonment prevention project
<p>Indicator 3.1.6 Number of local specialists, including academia trained on child rights and justice for children courses.</p> <p>Baseline: 100</p> <p>Planned Target: 200</p>	More than 200 local specialists, including academia trained on child rights and justice for children throughout the programme.	Achieved	
<p>Number of trained specialists using the skills practically.</p> <p>Baseline: 100</p> <p>Planned Target: 200</p>	<p>50 teachers of regular schools and special schools from Semey and Ust-Kamenogorsk were trained in UNIFIED football by Special Olympics UNIFIED Football advisor (2013).</p> <p>150 medical students from the medical University of Semey and 75 students from the medical college of Ust-Kamenogorsk received didactic and hands on training on how to interact and screen children with ID/DD 30 volunteers (social workers, school teachers of physical training) learnt how to engage CWD into sports activities (2013).</p> <p>20 physical education teachers increased their skills on inclusive sport during the seminars (2014).</p> <p>50 general practitioners and students, 15 ophthalmologists participated in the lectures on general medical care for children and adults with disabilities and the evaluation of the vision and hearing of people with intellectual disability (2014).</p>	Achieved	<p>Special Olympics Europe Reports (2013)</p> <p>Special Olympics Europe Reports (2014)</p>
<p>Number of services for children in contact with law operational.</p> <p>Baseline: 0</p> <p>Planned Target: 3 (diversion, social work in the court and probation).</p>	3 - Diversion programmes and probation with social work component is operational.	Achieved	Final report on diversion programme

<p>Indicator 3.1.7 Number of NGO representatives trained on social work; Number of services to support the most vulnerable supported by NGO.</p> <p>Baseline: 40</p> <p>Planned Target: 80</p>	<p>More than 80 NGOs working with children trained throughout the programme.</p>	<p>Achieved</p>	
<p>Output 3.2 Increase in access to and quality of maternal and child health care services (MCH) and guaranteed universal access to reproductive health services</p>			
<p>Indicator 3.2.1 % decrease in Infant Mortality Rate in EKO; % decrease in perinatal and neonatal mortality in MCH Center.</p> <p>Baseline 2010: IMR 20.7 per 1000 live birth Perinatal mortality in MCH Center 20.18% Neonatal Mortality in MCH Center 12.8%</p> <p>Planned Target: 12,2 per 1000 live birth Perinatal mortality in MCH Center 15% Neonatal mortality in MCH center 7.5 %</p>	<p>IMR 9.6 per 1000 live birth in 2015</p>	<p>Achieved</p>	<p>Official Statistics of the Ministry of Health and Social Development, Department of Health and MCH Center of EKO</p>
<p>Indicator 3.2.2 Number of trained health workers and academia on EPC, BABIES.</p> <p>Baseline: 0</p> <p>Planned Target: 70% of health workers in MCH area of the East Kazakhstan Oblast are trained.</p>	<p>80% of HW of MCH facilities (MCH Center of EKO, Perinatal center of Semey and rural maternities of Urdzhar, Ayagoz, and Abay rayons and Ridder IMCI/Care for Development. 76% of medical workers were trained on EPC.</p>	<p>Achieved</p>	<p>Reports of National EPC and IMCI Centers</p>
<p>Indicator 3.2.3 Vitamin A supplementation is piloted in one rayon and introduced to State Programme of Health System Development.</p> <p>Baseline: Vitamin A supplementation not in place.</p> <p>Planned Target: 500 children under 5 are received at least two doses of vitamin A.</p>	<p>1 250 children under 5 in the risk group were supplemented by Vitamin A in 2013.</p>	<p>Achieved</p>	<p>Report of Kazakh Academy of Nutrition</p>
<p>Indicator 3.2.4 MCH Interventions targeted to most vulnerable are developed and introduced to integrated medical and social services at PHC level.</p> <p>Baseline: No medical and social services at PHC level in 2010.</p> <p>Planned Target: The social workers at PHC level provide special services for vulnerable groups (mothers/families with children under 5).</p>	<p>The social workers at PHC level provide special services for vulnerable groups (mothers/families with children under 5). The Decree on technical competency for Medical and social work at PHC level developed and approved by MoH. UNICEF's recommendation on Medical and social service is presented for Ministry of Health.</p>	<p>Achieved</p>	<p>Normative acts</p>
<p>Indicator 3.2.5 The model on Continuum care of Mother and Child is established in EKO for further scaling-up to national level.</p> <p>Baseline: No model in place.</p> <p>Planned Target: Model on Continuum care of Mother and Child is established in EKO at rural level.</p>	<p>The Model on specialized continuum of care to Mother and Child is established in MCH Centers of Ust-Kamenogorsk and Urdjar.</p>	<p>Achieved</p>	

Output 3.3 Reduction in vulnerability among adolescents and young people to risks associated with the process of reaching sexual maturity and imposition of gender roles			
<p>Indicator 3.3.2. Number of children and young people covered by evidence based suicide prevention programme in East Kazakhstan Oblast.</p> <p>Baseline: 0</p> <p>Planned Target: At least 300 of children and young people will be covered by intersectoral suicide prevention programme.</p>	Over 3,000 adolescents were covered by suicide prevention component following the findings of the suicide study.	Achieved (Indicator baseline and target changed to numbers as recommended by MTE)	UNICEF Suicide report
Output 4.1 The population regularly receives information on best practices in the sphere of social protection, health, community participation in the implementation of EKO's regional development strategy			
<p>Indicator 4.1.1 Number of newspaper, radio, TV, internet etc. on the JP and its activities, coverage of communities which received information on the JP activities.</p> <p>Baseline: 0</p> <p>Planned Target: 20 of media outlets in the region receive UNICEF information.</p>	More than 20 local newspapers highlighted UN Joint programme events and participated in UNICEF media workshops In addition, UNICEF web-site, UNICEF page on Facebook (3990 followers), Akimat of EKO web-site highlighted the events and 2 brochures developed	Achieved	
<p>Indicator 4.1.2 Number of youth participating in mass media work related to the JP.</p> <p>Baseline: 0</p> <p>Planned Target: 20 of local youth organizations</p>	More than 20 local youth organizations.	Achieved	
<p>Indicator 4.1.3 Number of communication materials developed to contribute to JP implementation.</p> <p>Baseline: 0</p> <p>Planned Target: 10 different communication materials.</p>	More than 10 different communication materials.	Achieved	UNICEF communication materials
<p>Indicator 4.1.4 Number of the representatives of the press offices of akimats, representatives of SMEs, NGOs increased institutional capacity for communication; web site contains relevant information on JP.</p> <p>Baseline: 0</p> <p>Planned Target: 30 state and non-state partners.</p>	About 100 TV and newspaper photographs, journalists, animators, designers, filmmakers, sound producers, scenarists, representatives of state bodies and NGOs working with children from Semey, Ust-Kamenogorsk, and Ridder acquired new skills and knowledge on ethical and moral principles in highlighting the sensitive child issues.	Achieved	Seminar reports
Outcome 5 Ensuring of achievement of the project objectives and results set			
Output 5.1 Regular monitoring and evaluation activities and coordination to achieve the objectives and outputs of the project			Minutes of Programme Board meetings

<p>Indicator 5.1.1 Number of Project Board meetings; donor reports.</p> <p>Baseline: 0</p> <p>Planned Target: 10 Project Board meetings, 5 donor reports.</p>	<p>5 Board Meetings were held since 2011 as decided by Steering Committee. 5 donor reports submitted</p>	<p>Achieved</p>	
<p>Number of monitoring/evaluation missions conducted.</p> <p>Baseline: 0</p> <p>Planned Target: 2 monitoring/evaluation missions conducted.</p>	<p>2 evaluation missions conducted (1 on child protection component, 1 on MTE of JP)</p>	<p>Achieved</p>	<p>Final Evaluation reports</p>

Indicator Based Performance Assessment: UNFPA

	<u>Achieved</u> Indicator Targets	Reasons for Variance with Planned Target (if any)	Source of Verification
<p>Outcome 1: Capacities of local executive and legislative bodies enhanced for local level planning, implementation and monitoring, and evaluation, while ensuring better protection of the rights and interests of vulnerable groups of the population</p> <p>Indicator: Number of trained representatives of a local executive and representative authority; number of indicators for efficiency monitoring.</p> <p>Baseline⁷: n/a</p> <p>Planned Target⁸: n/a</p>			
<p>Output 1.1 Local government officials are trained in the knowledge and skills necessary to carry out more effective planning and budgeting, taking into account the needs and interests of vulnerable groups</p> <p>Indicator 1.1.1 Number of analytical reports on needs of vulnerable population groups</p> <p>Indicator 1.1 Number of regional registers on disabled</p>	<p>23 specialists of the EKO local government (departments on statistics, healthcare, labor and social programmes, education, economy and budget planning) trained on using the DevInfo database software that will empower local government agencies in data collection, data processing and for planning and monitoring of regional development plans.</p> <p>5 specialists of Departments of Eastern Kazakhstan: on statistics, healthcare, labor and social programmes, economy and budget planning trained on on Population and Development interlinkages and integration of demographic data in the socio-economic planning and monitoring of development programs.</p> <p>18 journalists of Eastern Kazakhstan are trained on the principles of correct interpretation of sexual and reproductive health protection issues in mass media.</p> <p>The report on review of indicators, the system on monitoring and evaluation of regional development programs on issues of</p>	no	<p>Project papers</p> <p>Consultant report</p>

⁷ Due to the fact that baseline for the activities, supported by UNDP, is not available in the program document, it is excluded from the table.

⁸ Due to the fact that planned targets for the activities, supported by UNDP, are not available in the program document, they are excluded from the table.

	reproductive health, gender violence and demographic development with special focus on the needs of vulnerable groups Analysis revealed the need for integration of the existing registers on disabled (the system of social protection) and data bases of the Universal national health system for provision of improved and timely care		
Outcome 3 Vulnerable groups in Semey, Kurchatov, Ust-Kamenogorsk and the districts affected by nuclear testing in EKO have improved access to social and economic services % NGOs, trained and providing social services to the vulnerable groups; Number of oralmsans benefiting from the services of the Centre of Social Adaptation and Integration; Number of inclusive projects identified in the areas			
Output 3.2 Increase in access to and quality of maternal and child health care services (MCH) and guaranteed universal access to reproductive health services Indicator 3.2.1 Rate of compliance of SRH care management with ISO standard Indicator 3.2.2 Rate of compliance of primary health care with best practices of sexual and reproductive health services Indicator 3.2.3 Unmet women's needs of modern contraceptives: disaggregated data by age, residence place and income	20% of the total number of primary health care institutions in the region in line with best practices to ensure the quality of SRH services (69 suppliers of primary health care to provide quality antenatal care and family planning services) Two leading maternity institutions of EKR passed ISO certification	not no no	ISO certification report available Mission reports of international consultants, office files
	11.9% - women aged 15-49 years 11,2% - women in urban areas 12,0% - women in rural settlements 20,6% - women aged 15-19 18,4% - women aged 20-24 13,8% - women aged 25-29 13,6% - women in poorest quintile	N/A	Multi-indicator Cluster Survey 2011. (available at the site of the Agency on Statistics http://www.stat.gov.kz) The next MICS preliminary report will be available in April 2016.

	Regular meetings with local government representatives (departments of healthcare, education, labour and social programmes) to discuss project progress and agree on further implementation plan Data collected		The present report, minutes and reports of each separate events (available in the Project's files)
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Success stories

Introduction of the ISO 9001-2008 standard into activities of the leading reproductive health organizations

To improve the competitiveness of reproductive health services there is an imperative to ensure high standards of management. UNFPA supported the implementation of the quality management system in the Mother and Child Centre of Oskemen City and Perinatal Centre of Semey City in order to ensure optimum quality control structure and improved performance as part of UNFPA technical assistance to the State Health Development Program Salamatty Kazakhstan, 2011-2015 aimed at improving management systems. To do so UNFPA initiated the work on introduction of standard ISO 9001-2008 in the aforementioned leading maternity hospitals of the region. At the beginning, this initiative was opposed by health sector authorities and managers of health organizations so UNFPA had to carry out the necessary preparatory work and informed health authorities and managers about the importance of standardization for the status of the organization.

National consultants were invited to perform (i) diagnostics of the management system for compliance with requirements of the international standards ISO 9001-2008, and (ii) develop the program and workplan for introduction of the quality management system and preparation for certification of the maternity hospitals. Consultants identified the needs, formulated tasks and suggested distribution of responsibilities for certification. In addition there were held trainings providing technical assistance for certification, in particular identified necessary documentation for each division of maternity hospital. Staff was trained to carry out internal audits. All the above activities have made a significant contribution for planned accreditation of an organization.

The above mentioned centres were certified by *Eurasia MS* the international body, the partner of *Quality Austria*, which was accredited by the *European Accreditation Society* (EA) and the *International Accreditation Forum* (IAF). *Quality Austria* is a member of the international network IQNet mutual recognition of certificates. IQNet provides its customers with an internationally recognized document that provides equal access to the world market. *Quality Austria* cooperates with the EOQ (European Organization for Quality). *Euroasia MS* certificate of compliance of management systems of the Republic of Kazakhstan - is registered in the State Register of technical regulation of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

The results of the certification clearly showed the importance of a systematic management monitoring that allows responding in a timely manner to the various challenges in ensuring the quality of provided services. This was confirmed by successful results of the the State accreditation the two maternity hospitals went through immediately after receiving Euroasia MS certificate.

First swimming pool at the rural level

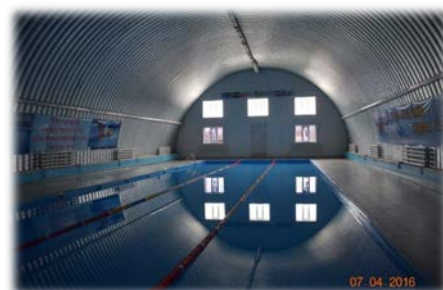
In 2009 in Zaisan district of the East Kazakhstan Oblast the sports complex was built. While it has been used quiet extensively for various sporting activities, the achievements of local athletes remained low. This issue had been addressed at the gathering of the population in 5 rural districts attended by 6 572 persons. The locals identified the lack of pool as the most



burning issue affecting public health, and preventing normal physical development of children and young people. Prior to construction of the Pool, the young athletes and youth of Zaisan had to go for swimming to the lake Zaisan, which is 60 km away from their homes. In theory it might be possible in summer, which is extremely short in this part of the country, but still it could not be considered as a real option for regular training activities.

Residents, non-governmental organizations, representatives of the district akimat and maslikhat actively participated in training courses on budgeting, planning, development projects for local initiatives. On the basis of the grant competition within the UN Joint programme in EKO NGO "Yelimai Zaisan" became the winner and jointly with the local authorities implemented the project "Construction of an indoor swimming pool in Zaisan" totaling 56 million tenge. The project was aimed at improving quality of life of the population, promotion of healthy lifestyle, demonstration of energy efficient technologies and reduction of electricity consumption. The representatives of the Department of employment and social programmes, UNDP staff, NGO "Yelimai Zaisan" and initiative groups were involved into the project development and construction of the facility.

For the construction of the indoor swimming pool the Zaisan district akimat allocated 34.9 million tenge. The population and entrepreneurs also contributed more than 1 million tenge. The financial support of the Joint UN Programme amounted to 19 million tenge. The length of the building is 34 meters and width is 15 meters. The swimming pool is 25 meters long and 8 meters wide, which meets Olympic standards. Total volume of water in is 300 cubic meters. During construction, the energy-efficient technologies were deployed, including, but not limited to LED lights, heat exchanger and pump.



The building of the swimming pool is heated by the local school heating system that uses solid fuel. This gives significant savings for maintenance of the facility. The water itself is heated through a heat exchanger that saves heating water and filtered by 3 river sand filters. Four stations to control PH (alkalinity) of water are established. Emoveks is used for chlorine disinfection. Algitinn (antialgae) is used to combat prevent algae growth and their prevention. Ekvitall ensures water cleanness and transparency. The whole process is automated.

Due to the project implementation 9 new jobs were created, including one financed through the republican budget.

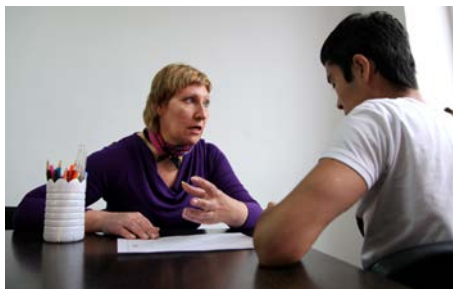
According to Almas Ondaganov, the akim of the district, construction of the pool is beneficial to various groups of locals. Once a month the schoolchildren from all districts will have sports activities at the swimming pool. Importantly, people with disabilities and children from low-

income families will be able to attend the swimming pool free of charge. Other residents of the district will use the swimming pool for a modest fee.

Initiation and successful construction of the swimming pool would have been impossible without knowledge campaign on the opportunities provided by the local self-government. Initiative groups and NGOs actively participated in seminars on planning, budgeting and monitoring and applied the gained knowledge in practice.

This project has contributed to raising trust in the public authorities, further development of civil initiatives and accessing to new high-quality services in the countryside. Thanks to combined efforts of all stakeholders the conditions were created for integration of population in the solution of their problems.

Piloting diversion center in East-Kazakhstan oblast



Is “diversion” a process that changes children’s behavior who committed a mistake? Is it necessary to take children to court in the situations when a child commits a mistake because she/he does not know all the rules of life? The human-interest story of Asset allows us to see the issue from a new perspective.

According to the investigation report, Asset, 12 years old boy, committed theft in the neighbor’s summerhouse: he stole a mobile phone, pre-paid card for the phone and perfume. Due to the UNICEF supported programme, Asset’s case was referred to the diversion center. During the interview with Asset, it was found out that Asset felt confused on where the boundaries are in interacting with other people. He did not know when it is allowed to access other’s house, and when it is not. He received consultations of the psychologist and a social worker who worked with him on identifying ethical boundaries with other people using situational exercises, improving communication with his family, relatives, and classmates; discussing his responsibilities towards other people. The center also connected him with a master of a car repair service who was willing to work with the child and teach him how to repair cars. Asset visited the car repair service twice a week, was trained on the spare parts of automobiles and improved his skills. During the work with Asset, many things became clear: the reason why he took the perfume (because the perfume smelled like the one of his father), the card (he thought he will use the money and charge it again when he finds money and give the card back to the owner). However, he said that he had not taken the mobile phone (it was found later in the house of the owner).

It was found out that the summerhouse from which Asset took the card and perfume belonged to a family of his friend. He played football together with him during summer. He often visited his friend for drinking tea and watching TV. In autumn, when the family moved to another apartment in the city they left one key to Asset. He secretly visited the summerhouse several times for drinking tea and watching TV.

This kind of cases show that bringing such cases to court might be harmful for a child. A record of the court would affect Asset’s life negatively limiting his rights in the future. On the contrary, dealing with such cases in child friendly places, such as diversion center, can positively affect children’s life helping them to easily reintegrate into community.

Case of vulnerable family with young child



Kalamkas is a young woman of 19 years old. She lives with her son in the remote village, named Malkeldy in East Kazakhstan oblast. As many of her classmates in the rural area, she married just after completing the secondary school. She was happy with her husband and her little son named Askar, until fatal accident occurred and she lost her husband. Askar was only 3 month old when his father died.

During the assessment of home visiting services conducted by UNICEF, Kalamkas told that during the funeral procedures, Askar was left without any care and he got sick. In such small villages as Malkeldy, the only health service providers are a patronage nurse and midwives, therefore the patronage nurse identified pneumonia of Askar and supported with his admission to the baby hospital in Ayagoz town, which is located within 300 km distance from the village. The baby got medical treatment and was under a constant control and care of the patronage nurse. But not only the baby received health service, but his mother, Kalamkas, also could get social support with the help of the patronage nurse who advised local authorities on her situation and then they sent a social worker over to her.

Now, Askar is 1 year and feeling well, and living with his mother and grandparents. When he reaches 2 years age, Kalamkas plans to start working at a local bakery with the support from local authorities.

The story shows how it is important to have a well-functioning home visiting system in Kazakhstan with its large territory, especially in rural areas, such as a small village Malkeldy, where the quality of services provided by patronage nurses might cost lives. Therefore, conducting such regular assessments of home visiting services can surely contribute to improving quality of patronage services and, ultimately, lead to survival of more babies.

Feedback from the youth resource center in Ayagoz:

Many youth programmes emerged in the country, and all of them are being implemented to assist young people with getting education, employment and finding their niche in society. One of such examples is opening youth resource centers in each region to support youth and youth associations. However, it is not an easy task to define the area of activity for the new centers. UNICEF experts met with the personnel of our youth resource center in Ayagoz and organized a training seminar to define and explain the meaning, basic function and work areas of the center. We already see the results. Due to the training provided by international experts we managed to find common ground with the youth and work with them not only within the center but also outside it, whether it is in the park, in the yard or in the street and, thus, could better understand young people.

Main purpose of the resource center is to raise the spirit of the youth, especially in rural area, strengthen their role in society, protection of their rights and provision of full support to them.

We believe that a youth resource center today plays an important role among young people.

Feedback from the participants of the programme on Violence prevention in schools:

How did the training programme on primary prevention influence violence prevention in school?

“Due to the programme of primary prevention of school violence children more often follow the “Stop, Wait, Speak principle”. (School No.19, Ust-Kamenogorsk)

“Improvement of interpersonal skills and prevention of problems related to behavior and school violence.” (School No.19, Semey)

“The main contribution of primary prevention is children’s understanding of what violence and non-violence are, types of violence and, which is the most important, how to act when you see violence against the others.” (School No.34, Semey)

“This programme introduced a certain system of preventive work and response to violence cases, especially response by children to the cases of violence, as well as the reporting system”. (Economic school-lyceum, Ridder)

What are the advantages of meetings with students at risk and high risk and their parents?

“Parents can see interest of the school in solving their child’s problems, and the student can see the unity of school and parents in solving his/her problem”. (School No.27, Ust-Kamenogorsk)

“Prevention of repeated cases of violence”. (School No.19, Semey)

“Better understanding of family relations”. (School No.34, Semey)

“Parents start seeing problems of their child differently”. (Economic school-lyceum, Ridder)

What are the advantages of secondary and tertiary interference?

“Joint work with representatives of NGOs and other city organizations”. (School No.19, Ust-Kamenogorsk)

“Close cooperation allows preventing cases of school violence and interact with parents involving children’s specialists”. (School No.3, Ridder)