

ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT
UNITED NATIONS HUMAN SECURITY TRUST FUND

SUSTAINING LIVELIHOODS AFFECTED BY ARAL SEA DISASTER
UDP-EE-10-084

PARTICIPATING UN AGENCIES

UNDP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNV and WHO



- **Date of submission:** January 31, 2014
- **Benefiting country and location of the project:** Republic of Karakalpakstan within the Republic of Uzbekistan
- **Title of the project:** “Sustaining Livelihoods Affected by the Aral Sea Disaster”
- **Duration of the project:** 36 months (started in July 2012, ending in March 2015)
- **UN organization responsible for management of the project:** United Nations Development Programme in Uzbekistan (UNDP)
- **UN executing partners:** UNESCO, UNFPA, WHO and UNV
- **Non-UN executing partners:** Ministry of Economy of the Republic of Uzbekistan, Council of Ministers of the Republic of Karakalpakstan
- **Total project cost (including programme support cost) –** In the case of projects implemented by two or more UN organizations’, the lead organization will provide the budget breakdown. :

TOTAL Programme budget for 2013: USD 2,381,747.05

UNDP: USD 1681323.05 (UNTFHS- USD 1431323.05, TRAC- USD 250000)

UNESCO: USD 211967

UNFPA: USD 271780

WHO: USD 58315

UNV: USD 158360

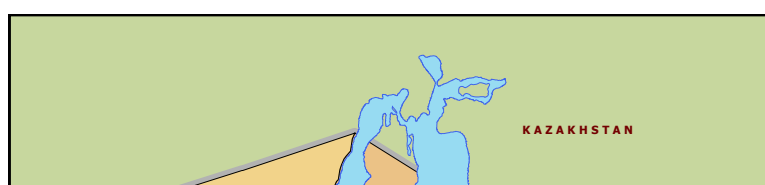
- **Reporting period:** March 2013 – February 2013
- **Type of report:** Second Progress report

Executive summary

The UN Joint Programme was launched in March 2012, upon signing of programme document by implementing UN agencies and the Ministry of Economy of the Republic of Uzbekistan. The Programme activities commenced in June 2012 with the official Programme inception meeting held in Karakalpakstan, involving all the relevant stakeholders. Further to the first progress report submitted in February 2013, during the current reporting period, a substantial progress was made to achieve the set targets for 2013.

Geographically, within the UN Joint Programme, UNDP activities are concentrated in three most vulnerable districts of Karakalpakstan, namely Muynak, Shumanay and Kanlikul, while activities of UNESCO covers Amudarya, Beruni, Elikala and Turtkul districts. UNV portfolio covers Shumanay, Muynak, Karauziak, Kegeyli and Nukus districts, and WHO and UNFPA activities and trainings cover almost all districts of the region. The following map shows the locations of the districts.

Administrative Divisions in The Republic of Karakalpakstan



Legend

Districts

1 - Amudarya

2 - Beruni

3 - Chirchik

Under the UNDP activities, considerable results were achieved that focuses on addressing economic, food and environment security in the target districts of Karakalpakstan through **enhancement of income generation component activities**. UNDP and UNESCO have established a network of 50 rural consultants, who have contributed in establishing and managing demonstration plots/small scale business projects and provided agriculture consulting to farmers and dekhans. During the reporting period, UNDP has provided support to initiate, develop and finance the establishment of 63 business projects to create demonstration plots. Those business initiatives and demonstration plots are creating 98 new jobs in vulnerable communities to ensure their economic and food security. Those demonstration plots are established in the field of agriculture, livestock, poultry and fish farming, sewing shops, greenhouse, bee farming, craftsmanship, small size food production such as bakery shops, tourism development, and so on. The Programme is working to ensure further capacity building support for those established demonstration plots to ensure their sustainability, monitor their activities and provide capacity building support. 100 farmers and dekhan households located in the Lower-Amudarya biosphere reserve buffer zone are being supported by financing their projects in the area of sustainable land management that contributes greatly to bring degraded land into productive use in the environmentally insecure areas. To expand and replicate the community based Horticulture and Afforestation Farmer Field School (FFS) in larger number of farmers and households within Kazakhdarya community in Muynak district, the Programme completed the reconstruction of the irrigation canal and construction of the new pumping station. This project ensured the irrigation water access for gardening and launching agriculture activities in more than 300 household yards, which now have the opportunity to engage in farming, sow different seeds outdoors and work on gardening in their lands; thereby providing their families with the basic agricultural products and ensuring food security.

The UNESCO ensured development of environmentally clean technologies and the introduction of new innovative crops on degraded lands of the Aral Sea basin and Karakalpakstan. All indicators set by UNESCO for 2013 in terms of number of people and planned activities were achieved. The activities were carried out in cooperation with the Urgench State University. The main objective was to promote new innovative cash crops, sustainable management and conservation of freshwater by supporting knowledge transfer and capacity-building. UNESCO, together with NGO KRASS

(established in the framework of the past UNESCO/ZEF project) and the Urgench State University, conducted capacity-building activities aiming to introduce the research project's findings to farmers and specialists as a contribution towards the formulation of new national rural policies. Moreover, within the cultural component of UNESCO's activities, two sites were selected for the establishment of visitor and informational centers in Amudarya and Turtkul districts of Karakalpakstan. In particular, the concept and design of the centers were developed, repair works were undertaken and centers were equipped with furniture and exhibition objects such as informational panels, photo materials and stuffed animals.

On **capacity-building of primary healthcare system component**, with the purpose of ensuring health security of the population effected by the environmental disaster, UNFPA and WHO has achieved all targets set for 2013, while UNV has made significant progress towards fostering its activities. UNFPA and WHO ensured the enhancement of the capacities of specialists with special focus on addressing in early case detection of respiratory diseases and the needs of women and young people. Specifically, the healthcare specialists of the rural healthcare facilities and relevant institutions were trained and their capacities enhanced on the topics of reproductive health, contraceptive use, maternal health care services, and deployment of PAL strategy. The youth were trained on Peer Education to promote Healthy lifestyle and HIV/AIDS and Tuberculosis prevention. 100 young people were trained as peer-to-peer educators on these topics and become members of UNFPA-run educational Y-PEER network. UNFPA has also trained 400 rural women on family planning and self-entrepreneurship. Throughout the year they were actively engaged in peer education activities by UNFPA and its youth partners among NGOs. The medical equipment were procured and delivered to the Ministry of Health of Karakalpakstan. It is expected that the sustainability of the supported areas of development by UNFPA, in particular at the level of health sector will be ensured by local and central government.

The "PAL strategy" for nurses serving in primary health care facilities developed with the support of the WHO, which was approved by Ministry of Health of Uzbekistan. Based on approved guideline, WHO conducted series of trainings on "PAL strategy" for general practitioners and nurses of primary health care facilities. WHO and UzHydromet set a working group to develop National Standards on particular matter monitoring and submitted to the UZStandart for approval. Under the UNV activities, the Council of Ministers of Karakalpakstan has endorsed the mutual action plan for institutionalization of volunteerism in the healthcare area to address the issues related to tuberculosis and other respiratory diseases. Five institutions (including Ministry of Health, Women's committee, Fund Makhalla (Village Council of Citizens), Medical Institute, and Association of Nurses) agreed on responsibilities for improving community awareness on health related issues on regional and district levels.

On **enhancing capacities and basic service delivery component**, the Programme in close collaboration with the local and district level partners of target districts is working on ensuring a holistic approach on local government to formulate policies centered on the human security approach. During the reporting period, the Programme has conducted capacity building workshops in the most vulnerable communities and assisted them to develop people centered 'Community Development Plans'. The Programme, based on those Community Development Plans provided support on improving the basic social services through funding and implementing 22 community based projects in those vulnerable communities. Those projects aim at improving access to quality drinking and irrigation water, electricity, health and educational facilities for the population of 31 communities that benefit around 34,262 local

inhabitants. The capacities of the representatives of the regional and local government and public organizations have been built through provision of trainings on human security, human development, Result Based Management, sustainable development, and on the basics of gender statistics. The Programme provided capacity building support to the regional ministries for developing human security concept and indicators of social-economic development for projecting economic, ecological, and food security as well as health security of the region. The solar panels are planned to be purchased and installed in 9 rural health facilities in Muynak district in order to increase the rate of community people's access to better health facilities and to provide continuous operation of medical equipment in this remote and the most damaged by environmental crisis district. The tender process for installing of solar panels has been completed and the installation works are planned for the first months of the 2014. The Donor Assessment Report "Report on Donor Activities in the Republic of Karakalpakstan for 2006-2011 years" has been published and currently in the process of dissemination among the partners.

During the reporting period, the Programme has further enhanced the established strong working relationships with local partners including, the Council of Ministers of Karakalpakstan, district governance offices, local NGOs and CBOs, community representatives, etc. With the purpose to further strengthen the collaboration and ensure the smooth transformation of the knowledge and skills on the human security aspects, the review committee has been created by the Council of Ministers of Karakalpakstan that consists of Deputy Khokims of the target districts and representatives of the Ministry of Agriculture, Chamber of Commerce, Business Women Association, Farmers Council of Karakalpakstan and the Programme staff. The review committee tasked to review and assess the business projects to be financed by the Programme for creation of demonstration plots. This approach also creates favorable conditions to ensure transparency, accountability and selection of the quality proposals submit by the potential project beneficiaries. Apart from that, productive cooperation was continued with international agencies, such as Israel Agency for International Development Cooperation (MASHAV), British Embassy, UN Agencies such as UNICEF and UNWOMEN, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), International NGO MSF, etc.

- **List of abbreviations and acronyms**

ADB	Asian Development Bank
ABD	Area Based Development
ELS	Enhancement of Living Standards
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GP	General Practitioner
GIZ	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
JICA	Japan International Cooperation Agency
KRASS	Khorezm Rural Advisory Support Service
MSDS	Market Skills Development Centre
MASHAV	Israel Agency for International Development Cooperation
MDG	Millennium Development Goals
MCH	Maternal Child Health

MSF	Médecins Sans Frontières
NGO	Non Government Organization
PAL	Practical Approach to Lung Health
RBEC	Regional Bureau for Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States
SISF	Social Initiatives Support Fund
SGP	Small Grants Programme
SRH	Sexual and Reproductive Health
TB	Tuberculosis
TIKA	Turkish International Cooperation Agency
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNV	United Nations Volunteers
UNESCO	United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNTFHS	United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security
UNDAF	United Nations Development Assistant Framework
UNICEF	United Nations Children Fund
WB	World Bank
WHO	World Health Organization

Section II: Purpose

The visit of the UN Secretary General to the Aral Sea in Karakalpakstan in April 2010 highlighted the negative impact that this environmental disaster has had on the people of the region. Traditionally the Aral Sea provided both irrigation and fishing opportunities, whereas nowadays, due to the drying up of this body of water, these are both limited and even drinking water is scarce in many locations. Furthermore, the desert that has now formed where the sea once was is frequently the source of dust storms with the heavily polluted air having a very negative impact upon the health of the region's population. The impact on the livelihoods and health status of the population of the region has been severe, forcing many to relocate. Those who stay find themselves under rather difficult living conditions. It is this group that this programme is targeting.

The Human Security goal of the programme is **“Improved economic, food, health and environmental security for the population of Karakalpakstan affected by the Aral Sea environmental disaster”**. The programme has three objectives and incorporates both “Top Down Protection’ and “Bottom Up Empowerment’ components. The specific objectives are as follows:

Objective One: Income generation opportunities and economic security for vulnerable groups in the three target districts increased.

Objective Two: Capacity of primary health care workers to address the health consequences of the environmental disaster and economic insecurity enhanced in ten target districts with a specific focus on addressing the needs of women and young people.

Objective Three: Capacity of regional and three district authorities enhanced to develop and implement economic, environmental security and social policies aimed at welfare improvement of vulnerable groups.

The main target group of the programme will be poor rural communities in Karakalpakstan that are faced with unfavorable living circumstances.

The programme's goal is in line with the central government's policy that highlights addressing the impact of the Aral Sea environmental disaster as a priority issue. The programme will also serve as a means for broader advocacy around the issue of human security through capacity-building of local authorities and raising awareness on the issues of sustainable development.

Furthermore the programme directly addresses the following UNDAF outcomes:

UNDAF Outcome One: **Economic well-being of vulnerable groups is improved;**

UNDAF Outcome Two: **Enhanced access to and utilization of relevant, quality essential social services;**

UNDAF Outcome Four: **Effectiveness, inclusiveness and accountability of governance at the central and local levels enhanced.**

The programme is very much people-centered and context specific and through its activities giving local population the building blocks for achieving development progress as set in the UNTFHS priorities. The Aral Sea environmental disaster has severely impacted upon the ability of the population in this region to maintain basic living standards. Notably, there is insufficient support coming to the region due to the limited number of donors present in the region, therefore mobilizing additional resources within this programme to increase the effectiveness and impact is a challenge.

The programme is being implemented by five UN agencies: UNDP, UNESCO, UNFPA, WHO and UNV with UNDP as a lead agency using the parallel funding modality. A Nukus and Tashkent based project team in implementing the programme activities is working closely with respective UN Agencies in Tashkent.

The fundamental issue for the people of Karakalpakstan is maintaining basic standards for living. It is for this reason that the programme focuses upon the sectors of livelihoods and health. Furthermore, a governance objective facilitates long-term sustainability and allows the implementation of small scale infrastructure that realizes basic living standards, particularly in regards to access to water. The programme will improve basic minimum living standards for the population of selected rural communities in Karakalpakstan that are exposed to the impact of the Aral Sea environmental disaster.

The programme is context specific and works within a defined geographical area in the less-developed region of Uzbekistan¹. It is perfectly aligned with the funding criteria and more specifically meets the following **target situations and people** criteria as outlined in V.1 of the UNTFHS application guidelines.

- Assist community level efforts in protecting people from extreme poverty and sudden economic downturns and natural disasters : by providing improved access to basic services such as water and energy supply and implementing simple livelihood improvement activities

¹ Karakalpakstan has the highest incidence of poverty in Uzbekistan. National Human Development Report 2007 - 2008

- Enhance health care and service coverage to those whom other initiatives have not reached : through a focus on primary health care services delivered by community volunteers

Furthermore with regards to the **parameters for funding** all of the parameters set out in V.2 (a) – (e) in the guidelines are satisfied. The programme

- Provides concrete and sustainable benefits to rural communities whose very existence is under threat due to the impact of the Aral Sea environmental disaster
- Employs both “top down protection” and “bottom up” empowerment measures
- Facilitates civil society groups, NGOs and other entities to take a lead in the implementation process
- Takes an integrated approach that focuses upon the livelihood, health and governance issues associated with Human Security
- Focuses on a group, Dekhkan farmers and the rural communities where they live that are largely neglected by other programmes.

These interventions are being implemented through traditional community structures, known as the Mahalla², and employ participatory approaches which empower the local leadership at every level. In addition the capacity of Governance at the Regional and District levels will be improved to better provide top down protection interventions that meet the needs of the most vulnerable. The approach adopted by the programme is multi-sectorial making the best use of the different technical expertise that the participating UN agencies offer.

Main implementing partners:

- The Council of Ministers for the Republic of Karakalpakstan
- Ministry of Economy
- Fund for Aral Gene Pool Protection
- Ministry of Health
- Ministry of Finance
- Ministry of Agriculture and Water Protection
- State Committee on Nature Protection
- International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea
- National Company “Uzbektourism”
- NGO KRASS (Khorezm Rural Advisory Support Service)
- State Lower-Amudarya Biosphere Reserve
- Academy of Art of Karakalpakstan
- Local NGOs and Local Community-based Organizations
- State Museum of Nature of Uzbekistan
- Urgench State University
- Center for hydrometereological service under the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan (Uzhydromet)
- Farmers Council Branch in Karakalpakstan

² This is the lowest level of governance and in rural areas represents a community/small village whereas in towns will cover several streets.

- Chamber of Commerce and Industry Branch in Karakalpakstan

Section III: Results

Main activities undertaken and results achieved are as follows:

Output 1.1. 30% of dekhkan farmers (small subsistence farmers) in 50 target communities have implemented improved agriculture and livestock production practices, which are environmentally sustainable, and address the impact of climate change. (UNDP, UNESCO)

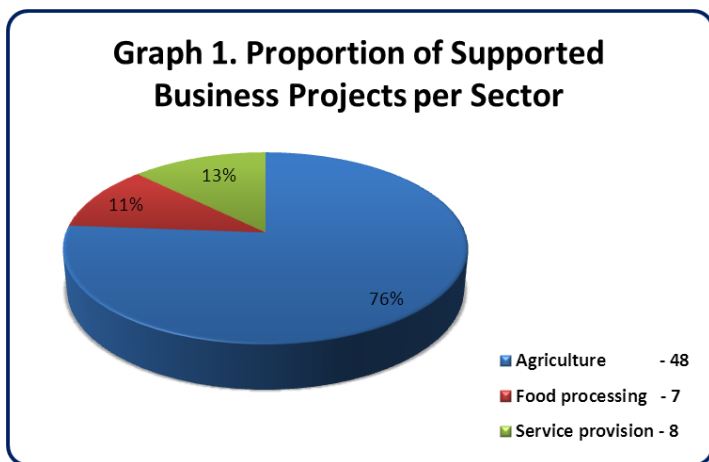
Activity 1.1.1: Identification of one dekhkan farmer in each of the 50 target communities as extension agents. This activity was completed in 2012, where in order to apply a unified approach to the establishment of agro-consultancy services in Karakalpakstan jointly with UNESCO, cooperation was set up with KRASS. Consequently, the rapid needs assessment was conducted by KRASS representatives and 50 local extension agents were selected amongst local farmers and dekhkans. Those extension agents made wealthy contribution in undertaking the Activity 1.1.3, as indicated below.

Activity 1.1.2: 50 selected extension agents trained in improved agricultural practices for vegetable production small plots. This activity was mostly completed as planned in 2012. Specialists of KRASS trained 50 rural consultants (11 of them are women) from three target districts in two stages, (September and January 2013), based on the teaching module developed within the Activity 1.1.7. by UNESCO.

In order for the network of extension agents to function effectively in target communities and introduce advanced technologies of saving water resources, , the Programme in cooperation with KRASS specialists organized field workshops on application of land laser leveling technologies for 78 extension agents and local farmers during on March 28-29, 2013. Currently, the extension agencies have contributed in establishing and managing demonstration plots/small scale business projects and provided agriculture consulting to farmers and dekhans located in the project target districts with the purpose to increase their knowledge and skills in the area. With the purpose of further enhancing the capacities of the extension agents, the Programme in cooperation with the MASHAV specialists has conducted three days training workshop on the subject of "Management of Water Resources and Plant Protection" during February 17-19, where apart from extension agents, the specialists from the respective government institutions such as Agriculture and Water Resources Department of the Council of Ministers of Karakalpakstan, Farmers Council of Karakalpakstan, Ministry of Agriculture and Water management and farmers from the pilot districts of the Programme took part. Training participants have obtained knowledge on advanced technology and agriculture methods, learned approaches and skills on efficient usage of water resources, increased crop productivity, protection of plants and yield from pests and diseases. Successful implementation and regeneration of water saving technologies and efficient irrigation will enhance income and food security of the rural population, also benefiting to improvement of the environmental stability in the region. The Programme plans with the involvement of those who benefited from trainings to conducted field level seminars in order to share knowledge on those innovations for more rural residents. The Programme also envisions to conduct another training through involving the MASHAV

Activity 1.1.3: Establishment of local extension points and input providers in the 3 target districts. In 2013, the Programme is in the process of supporting 63 demonstration plots and business projects (see Graph 1). Those projects were selected based on the 8 review committee meetings held within the frame of the Programme during 2012-2013. The Call for proposals for establishment of demonstration plots and small scale business projects were widely announced and disseminated through local media, radio, TV, and newspapers, formal and informal networks such as NGOs and CBOs. The relevant Programme specialists have provided continuous capacity building support to all potential beneficiaries on development of business projects and assistance has been provided in registration of enterprises. The selection of the proposals was conducted in participatory manner with engagement of representatives of the local governance office, civil society and representatives of business sector. Decisions were made based on consensus, and based on the selection criteria given in

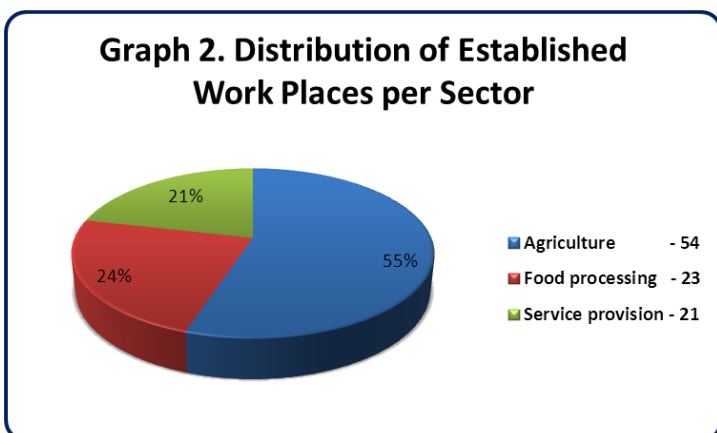
the approved regulation for selection of business ideas.



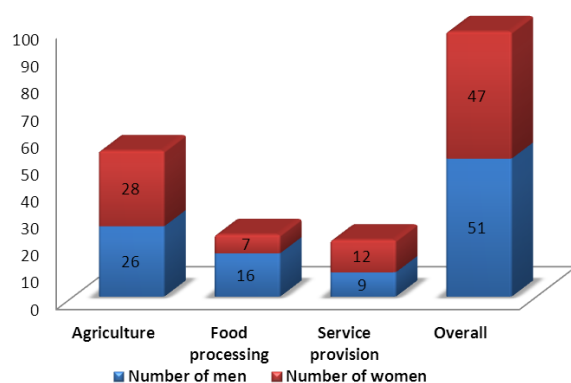
Currently, out of 63 demonstration plots and small scale business projects that are being supported, 57 projects were completed in terms of procurement and delivery of the inputs to the beneficiaries and they are operational in the fields and for 6 projects the procurement of the inputs are in process. To improve the economic

and food security of women, within the frame of cooperation with UN WOMEN and Women Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the Programme has supported the creation of the additional income generation sources in livestock development for 21

rural women from low income families and women, who have suffered from TB disease in the past. The funds for this activity have been allocated from the UNDP TRAC funds for the amount of \$ 50,000. Those initiatives have greatly contributed to ensure economic and food security of the vulnerable rural inhabitants with special focus to women.



Graph 3. Proportion of Business Projects' Beneficiaries per Sector



The small scale business initiatives and demonstration plots are creating 98 new jobs (see Graph 2 and 3) in vulnerable communities in the field of agriculture, livestock, poultry and fish farming, sewing shops, greenhouse, bee farming, craftsmanship, small size food production such as bakery shops, tourism development, etc.

Currently, 30 Memorandum of Understandings (MOUs) has been signed between the initiators of those

demonstration plots and Programme with the main purpose to ensure their sustainability, monitor their activities, provide capacity building support in 2014-2015 and use them as a demonstration objects for others to initiate further scale up and replication of similar initiatives by the government and other donors active in the region.

In addition, during the January and February 2014, number of monitoring visits have been conducted to those established demonstration plots and number of events has been held with participation of the representatives of the regional and local government, ministries, mass media and residents of communities to showcase success stories of those initiatives to ensure wider information coverage among the population of the region with the purpose of knowledge and experience transfer for others.

With the purpose of creating and supporting establishment of new demonstration plots/business projects in 2014 as per the workplan, the Programme has conducted number of activities during January- February 2014: (i) announcements in the local newspapers of three target districts with the call to take part with initiatives and submission of proposals for possible funding has been posted, (ii) conducted cluster based meetings through visiting the remote communities to share more information about the possibilities the local vulnerable rural residents have through the Programme in supporting their initiatives aimed at creating income generation sources, and (iii) broadcasted number of news stories through the regional TV about the Programme activities with the emphasis on demonstration plots.

As a result of above activities by the mid of February 2014, 60 different business proposals (applications) were received by the Programme, including 15 proposals from Muynak districts, 12 proposals from Shomanay district and 33 proposals from Kanlikul district. Currently the relevant Programme staff and consultants are reviewing those proposals and conducting field visits with the purpose to do short feasibility study on those proposals. The programme plans to conduct review commitment meeting on those received proposals by mid of March to select the most feasible proposals that enables to support most in need and vulnerable groups of people who suffer from the different human insecurities that exist in those areas due to the environmental

catastrophe linked to the disappearance of the Aral Sea and its negative impacts to the environment and consequently health and wellbeing of the population in the region.

Activity 1.1.4: Training of veterinary service providers in the following areas (i) animal health (ii) technical services and (iii) advisory services. Significant part of this activity was completed in 2012, where in cooperation with the Karakalpak Branch of Tashkent State University of Agriculture three training modules were developed, including “Effective Pasture Management and Fodder Preparation to Gain Livestock Full Nourishment”, “Infectious Animal Diseases Elimination and Prevention and Livestock Service Provision”, and “Advisory Services Provision in Livestock Management”. Additionally, two trainings on pasture management and veterinary services were conducted, and 18 heads of veterinary services providers were trained.

With the purpose to build the capacity of 21 rural women from low income families and women, who have suffered from TB disease, a training workshop entitled “Livestock Management at Household Level and Provision of Veterinary Services” was conducted in Kanlikul district. According to the pre and post-training evaluation results of the training, participants overall knowledge increased from 40% to 86.0%, with the overall satisfaction level of 95%.

Activity 1.1.5: 100 dehqan farmers supported in bringing degraded land back into productive use through the introduction of new sustainable farming systems in the Tugai biosphere. With the purpose of capacity building of 100 dehqan farmers to promote sustainable management in bringing degraded land back into productive use in the Lower Amudarya Biosphere Reserve, based on the MOU signed with the Kipshak Forestry Department, the Programme is providing support in establishing 100 demonstration plots. Specifically, 22 demonstration plots on bee farming are in the process of establishment by providing 100 sets of bee hives and 28 demonstration plots has been created that focus to promote vegetable production by ensuring access to irrigation water through installation of 5 hand pumps and 4 portable water pumps. By those demonstration plots, the Programme benefits 255 local inhabitants. In addition, the Programme provided support to population of Khojakol community of Amudarya district by providing access to drinking water, which now benefit 285 people living in the community that have an access to irrigation water and opportunity to involve in crop production.

Alongside with supporting initiatives towards empowering the communities to be more self-reliant through better livelihood opportunities, the Programme also conducted capacity building trainings on evidence based knowledge on sustainable management of natural resources and creation of new business initiatives to local dehqans and farmers. The recruited national consultant developed 2 training modules (Module 1: Sustainable Management of Natural Resources in Lower Amudarya State Biosphere Reserve; Module 2: Bee Farming Development as Income Generation Mechanism). Overall, 62 farmers and dehqans from 4 communities of Amudarya district, including Nazarkahn, Hojakol, Bekbay and Kipchak were enrolled in those courses, which have covered both modules on natural resources management and bee farming. According to

the pre and post-training evaluation results of the course, participants overall knowledge increased from 48% to 80.0%, overall satisfaction level was 97%.

As per the workplan for 2014, based on the outcomes of the conducted trainings and consultations held, 50 additional business initiatives were identified from the Village Community of Citizens of Nazarkhan and Tolkin. The Programme specialists in consultation with the potential beneficiaries who have submitted the business ideas have identified the needs for equipment, inventory and materials necessary for launching those 50 demonstration plots. Those identified projects are aimed at bee-farming, water conservation and land management, poultry, and fodder production. Currently, the documents are being prepared for launching the bidding for procurement of necessary inputs from the Programme in order to launch those projects.

During the creation of above demonstration plots, local people have been demonstrated on the approaches to the conservation of water resources, as well as the use of soil conservation, and moisture-saving technologies. It is envisioned that above activities and establishment of demonstration plots on degraded forest lands in the area of biosphere reserve will help to restore forests, which were previously in those areas that had multi-functions in terms of ensuring water and soil protection, anti-erosion to ensure environmental sustainability.

Activity 1.1.6: Establishment of improved pasture management practices in ten pilot communities. As a follow up and continuation of the capacity building trainings and study tours conducted in 2012, the programme supported funding of the business projects aimed at creating pastures. 4 farmers and 7 dekhkans who participated in the study tour have established demonstration plots on pasture management by planting alfalfa seeds to 11 ha of pasture lands. This initiative enables expansion of pasture lands towards enhancement of ecosystem and creates favorable conditions for local farmers in terms of having access to forage products thus providing income generation tools.

The Memorandum of Understanding has been signed with the Kazakhdarya Forestry Department to develop new demonstration plots by planting less water demanding drought-resistant crops and trees in the area and to ensure its replication amongst the community people. 5 demonstration plots for 10 ha of land in various forest conditions of Muynak district are now in process of establishment. The Programme has procured and provided various forage crops and water pump to proceed with this activity. During the January and February 2014, monitoring trips were conducted to the territories in order to see process on creation the demonstration plots and as indicated in above activity 1.1.2. director and number of specialists of the Kazakhdarya Forestry Department who work on establishing those demonstration plots have benefited from the trainings on water management and plant protection conducted by the MASHAV specialists within the frame of the Programme. The given initiative helps the Forestry Department to explore innovative methods to improve the trees and shrubs stability on the saline lands in an institutional manner and at grassroots level it empowers communities in providing efforts towards promoting mitigation strategies to build resilience and capacity to manage ecological threats in a sustainable way. The pasture demonstration plots help

more effectively and economically produce the fodders for livestock in rural areas thereby increasing the food production and economic wellbeing of the rural inhabitants. This year, as envisioned in the MOU signed the Kazakhdarya Forestry Department will support number of local inhabitants and start to establish additional 5 demonstration plots (on own expenses) which will be further showcased for the local community people with the purpose of its further replication and scale up.

Activity 1.1.7: Develop capacity of KRASS to act as extension service provider to farmers and agribusinesses in 3 target districts.

UNESCO supporting rural inhabitants in Southern Karakalpakstan.

From 27 February to 1 March 2013, UNESCO has organized three training seminars for farmers in Southern Karakalpakstan to build their capacities in growing cash crops under the specific conditions of the Aral Sea Basin. 100 farmers, specialists and rural inhabitants from three district of Karakalpakstan - Beruniy, Ellikkala and Turtkul - participated in these trainings.

The training was conducted by KRASS in cooperation with UNESCO Tashkent office. The overall training programme was based on research conducted in the Aral Sea region by the Center for Development Research (ZEF), University of Bonn, in collaboration with the science sector of UNESCO and the State University of Urgench in Khorezm, sponsored mainly by the Federal Ministry of Research and Education (BMBF) of Germany. It concerned the innovations, cash crops, modern technology of growing crops on degraded and marginal lands, and efficient water management.

During the seminars held in each district the extension specialists of KRASS and the Urgench State University introduced the following topics related to research work undertaken during 10 years and successful experience in the field of: Agricultural Innovations, New Cash Crops, Modern Technology of Growing Crops on degraded and marginal lands, Efficient Water Management. These trainings provided the farmers with an overview of the various crops available and helped to build their capacities in the most efficient ways to grow them. Another important outcome of these seminars was that the participants were able to become more familiar with the available information materials on growing crops as well as gaining a better understanding of the kind of support services the extension centers can provide them. In addition, participants received several publications (in Uzbek and Russian languages) on research summaries by the ZEF/UNESCO project "Economic and Ecological Restructuring of Land- and Water Use in the Khorezm Region".

The overall goal and important component of these trainings was to promote integrated concepts for restructuring land and water use and to adapt innovations for relevant stakeholders (i.e. farmers, water managers, policy makers).

UNESCO supports capacity building of specialists and farmers from Karakalpakstan in sustainable development and use of extension materials.

UNESCO supported the KRASS in conducting a training course for 18 specialists and farmers from three selected southern districts of Karakalpakstan, namely Beruniy, Ellikkala and Turtkul.

The training aimed to enhance the knowledge of the participants on the key aspects of sustainable development and environmental protection through the efficient use of the natural resources of the concerned region of Uzbekistan. Moreover, new extension methods for improving water and soil management, increasing soil fertility and plant nutrition were presented.

The 4-day training was held in Urgench from 26 to 29 November 2013, and it shared the outcomes and lessons learned of the UNESCO/ZEF project implemented between 2002 and 2012.

It is expected that, through the training, a set of improved practices to cope with land degradation issues will be developed in the form of technology packages, to be used by farmers in the three selected districts of Karakalpakstan.

Activity 1.1.8: New crops and tree varieties introduced and disseminated based on research done at Urgench University. The following activities and results were achieved on this activity:

Maintaining and monitoring the three established Demo Sites was conducted by Urgench State University. Urgench State University also purchased seeds of alternative crops (maize; sorghum; lucerne; melon; water-melon) for distribution among farmers in Ellikkala, Turtkul and Beruni districts of Karakalpakstan.

Establishment of the Extension and Information Resource Center at the premises of Urgench State University was conducted according to the best international practice. Theoretical and practical recommendations were developed to prepare working extension center in order to provide service for farmers in the region. A list of necessary information materials (books, documents, teaching materials, hand-out materials, brochures, leaflets) were made available for distribution at the Extension and Resources Center. Technical design of the Extension and Resources Center including the list of necessary equipment was prepared. A range of available services and trainings to be provided by the Center as well as a variety of potential topics / technologies / activities to be covered were determined for dissemination among farmers and other relevant stakeholders via the established Extension and Information Resource Center.

Concept Note and Detailed Technical Plan for the establishment of a Botanic Garden in Nukus was developed, including the description of 50 salt-resistant species and trees. The concept and plan summarized the latest trends as reflected in scientific publications, the specific difficulties encountered when growing these trees in similar conditions within the Aral Sea Basin, as well as country-specific issues. The technical Plan included recommendations on the efficient cultivation of trees on degraded lands of the Aral Sea basin and Karakalpakstan, based on prior analysis and modern agro-technology.

On the way to Sustainable Development. Training for sustainable development was conducted in Nukus on 8-9 August 2013 in order to raise awareness of local and regional public authorities of Karakalpakstan about the sustainable development, as well as strengthening their capacity to develop and implement effective and efficient development policies and mitigation strategies for the Aral Sea environmental crisis. During the training, 17 participants explored the best practices of land and water resources management in the region. The course comprised of 4 interactive learning modules, which unveiled the theory behind the concept of sustainable development, as well as contemporary best practices of water and land management prepared by UNESCO experts using software provided by UNESCO HQ that were adapted to the context of Uzbekistan. The concept of sustainable development was explained through the lens of rational use of natural resources.

Activity1.1.9: Replication of community based Horticulture and Afforestation Farmer Field School (FFS) Initiative in the Aral Sea Shore communities in Muynak district. To expand and replicate the community based Horticulture and Afforestation Farmer Field School (FFS) developed by the UNDP/GEF Project “Achieving Ecosystem Stability on Degraded Land in Karakalpakstan and the Kyzylkum Desert” in larger number of farmers and households within Kazakhdarya community in Muynak district, the Programme evaluated opportunities to develop household garden plots for 509 households located in the community. Based on the assessment, it was found that in the community there was a difficulty with irrigation of sowing lands; in particular about 300 households did not have regular access to irrigation water. Thus, the Programme in consultation with Muynak Khokimyat and community people initiated and completed the reconstruction of the irrigation canal with the length of 6 km and construction of the new pumping station including installation of new line of electric cables with a power transformer station in the community. This project now ensures the irrigation water access for gardening and launching agriculture activities to 300 household yards. This means that the residents of Kazakhdarya community will have the opportunity to engage in farming, sow different seeds outdoors and work on gardening in their lands, thereby providing their families the basic agricultural products and ensuring food security.

In January, the Programme has hired a short term consultant on forest plantation and currently more than 100 vulnerable households are being identified in the Kazakhdaray community which will be involved in gardening, afforestation and vegetable production. Necessary consultation support is being provided by the specialists of the Programme to the inhabitants of the rural community on this work. By the end of March, the Programme plans to procure seedlings of fruits, decorative trees and vegetables, and provide to those households which will be planting them in their household yards. Considering that this community has been provided with the access to the irrigation water as indicated above, the current activity is the logical continuation of the support to this community which will help the local community (which traditionally were engaged in fishery that has declined now) to obtain necessary new skills and knowledge in the agriculture and start to adopt to new changes and using their backyards for producing food items for their family members. The Scientific-Research Institute on Forestry based

in Nukus and Kazakhdaray Forestry Department are also contributing by their own by providing seedlings of decorative trees and technical consultations for the rural population in order to make this initiative sustainable.

Output 1.2. At least two eco-tourism sites are developed within Karakalpakstan region. (UNESCO)

Activity 1.2.1. Training on tourism for 50 local youth guides in Nukus.

National Workshop “The Great Partnership: Tourism and Museums in Karakalpakstan”. UNESCO in partnership with the Ministry of Culture and Sports of Uzbekistan and the Savitsky State Museum of Arts of Karakalpakstan organized a three-day training workshop entitled “The Grand Partnership: Tourism and Museums in Karakalpakstan” from 24 to 26 September 2013. It brought together representatives from the Ministries of Culture and Sport of Uzbekistan and Karakalpakstan, the National Company “Uzbek tourism”, the Board of Monuments of Uzbekistan and Karakalpakstan, museum specialists of Karakalpakstan as well as other regions of Uzbekistan. Culture is a fundamental component of social and economical development of any state. In particular, cultural tourism is one of the most fast-growing economical sectors in the world. Therefore, the intellectual and financial funding of the cultural industry proves that it contributes to reviving and developing the economy of a state.

The aim of the training workshop was to strengthen the national capacity in the field of cultural tourism development in Uzbekistan and Karakalpakstan through museums, as well as illustrating their role in promoting tourism and sustainable development. The workshop was conducted by international expert Mr. Stuart Gibson (USA).

Meeting on Development of Sustainable Tourism in Karakalpakstan. The event was organized in Nukus on 17 December 2013 with participation of representatives from the Ministry of Culture and Sport of Karakalpakstan, Karakalpak Branch of Uzbek tourism, the Academy of Art of Karakalpakstan, tour operators, Karakalpak Branch of Board of Monuments, as well as cultural specialists and community members. The aim of the meeting was to discuss the methods for strengthening the development of sustainable tourism in Karakalpakstan, including its needs and gaps.

Activity 1.2.2: Establishing a visitor and information centre on the base of "Kazakhli yatgan" archaeological site in Karakalpakstan (in close cooperation with Institute of Archaeology, Ethnography and History in Nukus).

Establishment of a Visitor centre in Amudarya district of Karakalpakstan. The activity was initiated in 2012 through the selection of a base for the centre. In particular the administrative building of the State Lower-Amudarya Biosphere Reserve was selected as a base for the centre. An agreement was reached with the Ministry of Agriculture and Water of Uzbekistan on the establishment of this centre at the premises of the Reserve.

The Lower Amudarya State Biosphere Reserve was established in 1971 in order to preserve the natural Tugai forest track and the animal species living therein. It is famous for its Bukharian deers, which, at present, count about 700 units. The reserve is located

at less than one hour from Nukus city and it is the first site on the way to Urgench preceding any other archaeological sites of Karakalpakstan. Therefore, it is expected that the establishment of the centre will greatly contribute to the development of eco-tourism in Karakalpakstan as well as fostering sustainable development in the region.

The establishment of the centre will further contribute to promoting the sustainable use of natural resources and improving social and economical well-being of the population in the region. The center will also be the basis for the organization of scientific activities (conferences, workshops etc) on the flora and fauna as well as the ecological situation of the Reserve. It will also contribute to the development of eco-tourism in Karakalpakstan as well as the preservation and promotion of natural and cultural heritage of Karakalpakstan at the national and international levels.

The activity was initiated by developing the concept for the centre and its design. In 2013, text and photo materials were developed and printed for informational panels. In parallel, the drawings of the rare animals and birds living in the area were designed and also printed. Moreover, a diorama of stuffed animals and birds was prepared. In addition, in 2013 the administrative building undertook repair works, particularly in the lobby, conference-hall, main exhibition room, as well as in the informational room and its outside walls. All exhibits were then set up.

The opening of the Visitors' centre is scheduled for mid-2014.

Establishment of a Tourist and an Informational Centre in Turtkul district of Karakalpakstan. The activity was launched at the end of 2012 with a feasibility study on possibility of creation a yurt camp and establishment of an information centre in a selected site in Karakalpakstan. As a result, a yurt camp at Djambas kala archaeological site was selected. Situated in a picturesque landscape with nearby lake, this yurt camp has the potential to contribute to the development of the tourism sector in the region.

Djambas-kala is a frontier fortress on the South-east border of the Ancient Khorezm on the way to Turtkul district. It is a spectacular site on the slope overlooking an old branch of the Amu-Darya River. It was founded in the 4th century BC and was occupied until the 1st century AD. It is well preserved and its 20 meters high walls are still standing up.

To this end, the following activities were undertaken:

- Purchasing and installing the solar panels and a wind generator: there was no electricity at the yurt camp. In the past, electricity was provided with a diesel generator but it was not enough to receive tourists. New alternative energy equipment was purchased and installed at the camp, in order to ensure its sustainable functioning.
- Developing of a yurt camp design: the design of the yurt camp, particularly its general view and details, including paths, fences and plantings, interiors as well as its cafeteria, were developed in accordance to the historical and traditional peculiarity of the region.

- Preparing a new yurt and repairing four existing yurts at the camp: the camp has six old yurts, four of which were repaired. Besides this, a new 8-wing yurt was prepared and installed at the camp. It is expected that these yurts will serve as a cafeteria for the camp.
- Establishing of an information centre: The following necessary equipment was purchased and installed at the information centre of the camp: 1 desk computer, 1 laptop, 1 printer (with the function of copy machine and scanner), 3G routers with wi-fi, 3G USB modem, Wi-Fi access point switch. Besides, repair works were undertaken in the premises in accordance to the design developed as well as purchased furniture and equipment. This centre will serve as an informational point for visitors who will be able to be acquainted with the history of the cultural heritage of Karakalpakstan and the archeological site through Internet access as well as the use of a small library.
- Repairing the yurt camp: repair works started in 2012 according to the developed design. In particular: seven bases (platforms) for yurts were built; the information centre was renovated and equipped; a big ayvan (shelter) of the main building was repaired; the plastering of the main building was renewed; and two small shelters were repaired.

The opening of the yurt camp is scheduled for mid-2014.

Activity 1.2.3 Publishing the promotional pamphlet on culture and history of Karakalpakstan. This activity is planned for 2014, and it will be completed by the end of this year and beginning of 2015.

Activity 1.2.4 Develop web-site on Culture and History of Karakalpakstan (history, monuments, folk arts, hotels, maps etc.) The idea of the website, its content and structure is under the discussion with the national partners including National Company Uzbek Tourism. It is planned to launch the website by the end of this year and beginning of 2015.

Output 1.3: Increased income-generation opportunities for 100 women and people with disabilities through improved production and marketing of local handicrafts (UNESCO, UNFPA)

Activity 1.3.1 Practical training on traditional handicrafts (embroidery). The list of participants is being developed. This activity is planned for 2014, once the envisioned assistance will be provided for the creation of the crafts center in Nukus (as indicated in Activity 1.3.3. below), as it is planned to conduct those training activities within the center in order to ensure the sustainability of the initiative.

Activity 1.3.2 Practical training on traditional handicrafts (carpet weaving and natural dyeing). The list of participants is being developed. This activity is planned for 2014, once the envisioned assistance will be provided for the creation of the crafts center in Nukus (as indicated in Activity 1.3.3. below), as it is planned to conduct those training activities within the center in order to ensure the sustainability of the initiative.

Activity 1.3.3. Support to crafts centre in Myunak or Nukus (repair works and purchase of equipment).

Establishment of a visitors' centre in Nukus. A feasibility study on the establishment of a crafts' center was launched in October – December 2013 and an exploratory mission was undertaken. As a result, the premise of Karakalpak Branch of the Academy of Art of Uzbekistan was selected as the most appropriate place for establishing such center. The Academy of Art offers two empty premises, which can be used for the center. In particular, it is planned to repair and equip these two premises with furniture and computers, providing job opportunities for the unemployed population, including youths and women, as well as conducting practical trainings in the field of traditional handicrafts.

Moreover, the Academy of Art offers a small library. It is planned to enlarge the capacity of the library with more publications and use it as a resource center for all interested visitors, where all data on craftspeople of Karakalpakstan will be collected and made available. Therefore, the Karakalpak branch of the Academy of Art will play the role of centralized body for all craftspeople of Karakalpakstan.

In addition to the above, the Academy offers an exhibition hall as well as a small shop where craft products will be sold and exhibited. The repair works will be launched at the beginning of spring 2014.

1.3.4. Series of trainings on entrepreneurial skills to improve capacity of Women's Committee and local NGOs. UNFPA in cooperation with national partners supported two 5-days trainings on entrepreneurial skills for representatives of the Women's Committee, NGOs, leaders of the self-governing bodies and youth organizations in Karakalpakstan. The workshops focused on the "Expansion of economic empowerment of women through the development of social entrepreneurship and socially responsible business making: a national and international experience". 50 training participants learned about the concept of perception of gender and gender roles, as well as the basic documents and UN conventions, dimensions of social entrepreneurship, social responsibility of business and non-profit sector. Participants also improved their understanding of the entrepreneurship itself and gained skills in writing business plans.

Output 2.1: Capacity of primary health care service providers to ensure contraceptive commodity security and provide quality family planning services is enhanced in 10 target districts with a specific focus on young people (UNFPA).

Activity 2.1.1: Based on tested training packages training of health professionals in MCH. Five days training sessions were organized with participation of experienced trainers from National SRH Center. Training sessions were organized in three districts of Karakalpakstan: Beruni, Amudarya and Turtkul. Overall five trainings were conducted for 125 ob/gyns, GPs and nurses on improvement of contraceptive technology and counseling skills. Trainings covered the topics related to Medical Eligibility Criteria for contraceptive use, infection prevention and control within family planning services. Reproductive rights was also a part of training curriculum and aimed to increase awareness of the health care professionals on informed choice and client's

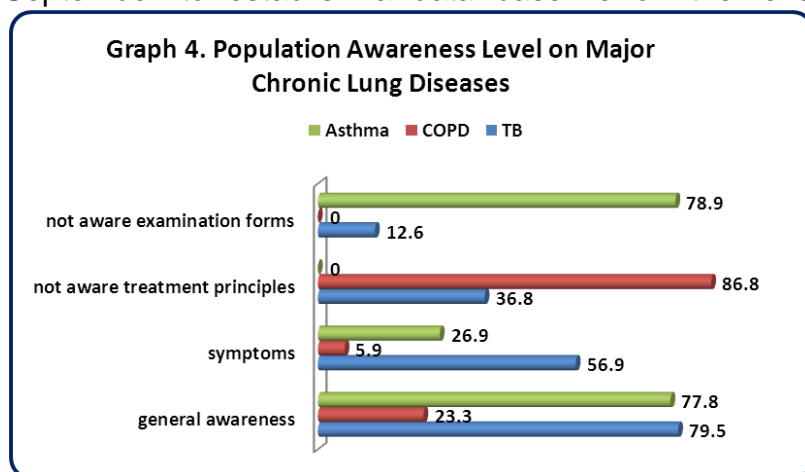
rights. According to the pre and post-training evaluation results of the course, participants overall knowledge increased from 57% to 88% respectively.

Activity 2.1.2: Training and counseling on family planning in 10 target districts and extend counseling, legal and economic support services to vulnerable women in 10 target districts. As in 2012, UNFPA together with national NGO “Civic Initiatives Support Centre” conducted twenty 2-day training sessions on training and counseling on family planning, and legal and economic support services to vulnerable women in the districts of Karakalpakstan. As a result 400 women received essential knowledge on family planning and improved skills and understanding of self-entrepreneurship.

Activity 2.1.3: Purchase of additional medical equipment / devices for primary health care institutions) RH commodities for the primary healthcare level clinics of Karakalpakstan were procured as per the plan for 2013 for the total amount of USD 100,000. UNFPA also provided support to the branch of National center on Obstetrics and Gynecology in Karakalpakstan through supplying of the EmOC procurement (cesarean section sets, blood transfusion equipment, hemorrhage management equipment etc.). The list of needed equipment for procurement and district level facilities for further distribution of the supplies was agreed with the Ministry of Health. It is expected that the procurement of RH commodities will fulfill the needs for the improvement of RH services and clients’ satisfaction on FP and Emergency Obstetric Care services in Karakalpakstan.

Output 2.2. 1500 community and volunteer health care workers trained as apprentices in a health fellowship programme sanctioned by the Ministry of Health to decrease incidences of respiratory and other infections associated with environmental degradation and climate change. (UNV)

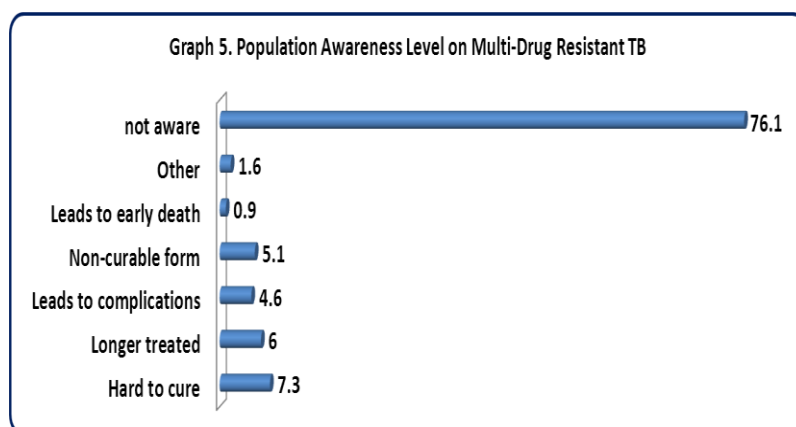
2.2.1 Train 1500 existing TB volunteers in preventative measures related to other diseases/ infections prevalent in the region. The Programme conducted a survey in September to establish a data baseline on the level of public information about respiratory diseases. The survey covered 1088 respondents from seven districts of Karakalpakstan.



The survey covered 1088 respondents from seven districts of Karakalpakstan. Some of the findings of the survey results are given in the graphs 4 and 5 . 79.5 % of the population was aware of TB in general, whereas only 23.9% of the population was aware of MDR TB (multidrug resistant form of tuberculosis). The results

were also utilized for development of appropriate training materials for the volunteer health care workers.

Protective material for volunteer health care workers was procured as well as other services needed for trainings. 3 trainers were hired (2 female). The trainings are expected to start in early 2014. 2 National UN Volunteers (1 female) and 1 female International UN Volunteer were deployed. Part time UN Volunteers are expected to be deployed in early 2014.



In January, UNV team performed three field trips to three districts: Shomanay, Kegeli and Nukust. The purpose of the visit was to identify the 993 possible volunteers of the three districts and check the training and catering venues for planned district level

trainings that will be carried out later in spring 2014. The UNV team also received the first delivery of procurement for the volunteers (calendars, flipbooks, hats, bags and sanitary gels). Furthermore, the contracts with the first part time volunteers were signed in February. In February, four 3-day TOTs (Trainings of the Trainers) in Nukus were held, and 85 TOTs participants have received their certificates as community health trainers. The awareness campaign project got good local media coverage, since the trainings were aired by the local TV channel and covered in the biggest newspaper of the area.

In February the UNV team also planned the schedule for the upcoming 75 trainings. Furthermore, the UNV team met their partner Medecins Sans Frontiers and the Ministry of Health of Karakalpakstan to discuss the upcoming TB Day in March 24th and participated in the meeting of TB partners in Tashkent. Furthermore, modern medical equipment, namely 8 units of spirometric devices "BTL -08 Spiro," was delivered in February. The spirometric devices will improve the timely detection and treatment monitoring of chronic lung diseases among the people of Karakalpakstan. UNV helped the supplier of the medical equipment to organize educational training for local medical professionals on spirometre usage.

2.2.2 Policy development on the recognition of health care apprentices by the Ministry of Health. First steps were taken to institutionalize community volunteerism into the health system of Karakalpakstan. The Programme developed the concept note on how to include the key national institutions into the Programme's activities – Mahalla Fund, Women's Committee, Association of Nurses, Ministry of Health and Medical Institute. Their representatives on the regional and district level will be responsible for identification, management, support and database keeping of the health apprentices. The concept was approved and supported by the Ministry of Health and the Council of Ministers of Karakalpakstan. In December 2013, a high level round table took place chaired by the Deputy Chairwoman of the Council of Ministers with participation of representatives from above mentioned institutions in order to explain the scheme to those who will put it in practice and will be hired as part-time UN Volunteers. Part-time UN Volunteer modality will be piloted by UNV for the first time globally. These

volunteers will be responsible for mobilization of community volunteers, their guidance and monitoring and reporting to UN office in Nukus and to the Ministry of Health. Their deployment is also part of the volunteerism institutionalization intention of the Joint Programme as these volunteers will come directly from the government structures and will be responsible for the day-to-day activities of the community volunteers. They will also contribute to the development of the policies to make volunteerism a sustainable concept in the whole health sector.

Contacts were established with the educational institutions in the region in order to include specialization in respiratory diseases into the medical school's curricula, and community volunteerism into appropriate specializations such as 'social work'.

2.2.3 Material and technical support to regional medical centers. The list of medical material needed was agreed upon with the Ministry of Health and 8 spirometers with sufficient amount of mouthpieces were procured and arrived to Uzbekistan. They will be distributed within the target districts in the beginning of 2014 and the medical centers staff will be trained in using them by the seller. 250 peak-flow meters will arrive in the country in the beginning of 2014 and distributed to ensure maximum added value of the material for the medical staff and the patients. The staff of the medical centers has been well trained in their usage by the UN and MSF over the years.

Output 2.3: Access of young people of 15-24 years of age to quality information and youth-friendly services on HIV infection prevention and sexual and reproductive health is improved (UNFPA).

Activity 2.3.1: Trainings for 300 young people as peer-educators on HIV prevention and Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) services in cooperation with "Kamolot", AIDs centre and National Centre on protection of reproductive health. Four 5-day ToTs on HIV/AIDS/TB Prevention and SRH service issues among youth as Peer-Educators were held in Nukus. As an outcome of the ToTs, 100 young people were trained on HIV/AIDS/TB prevention and SRH issues. By this, the ToT prepared young leaders-trainers to empower them in engaging in HIV awareness-raising campaign among their peers in Karakalpakstan. Certified trainees are now conducting their own activities engaging their peers to volunteer to prevent the HIV Harm in the region.

Activity 2.3.2: Dissemination of information materials on HIV prevention and SRH through resource centers. More than 6,000 IEC Materials were disseminated (Y-PEER ToT Manuals, "Healthy Youth-Salamat Jaslar" pamphlets on HIV/AIDS were disseminated through the partner organizations and youth NGOs and National Association of Reproductive Health). More IEC materials are available at the youth centers and can be collected for informational sessions especially for the Y-PEER educators in the communities.

Activity 2.3.3: Media campaigns targeting young people. As an outcome of the media campaign on HIV/AIDS and SRHR organized in Karakalpakstan within the Programme, 1500 young people learned about the SRHR and HIV/AIDS via interactive sessions conducted by young peer educators; 6000 IEC materials on HIV prevention and SRH were disseminated among young people for wider dissemination in their communities.

Activity 2.3.4. Trainings for 250 health care providers on adolescent SRH in regional medical centers. UNFPA in cooperation with Ministry of Health also supported four 5 –days trainings for 84 health care providers on adolescent SRH and Youth Friendly Health Services (YFHS) in Karakalpakstan. The training improved capacity of representatives of Karakalpakstan RH centers and service providers on adolescent SRH and YFHS.

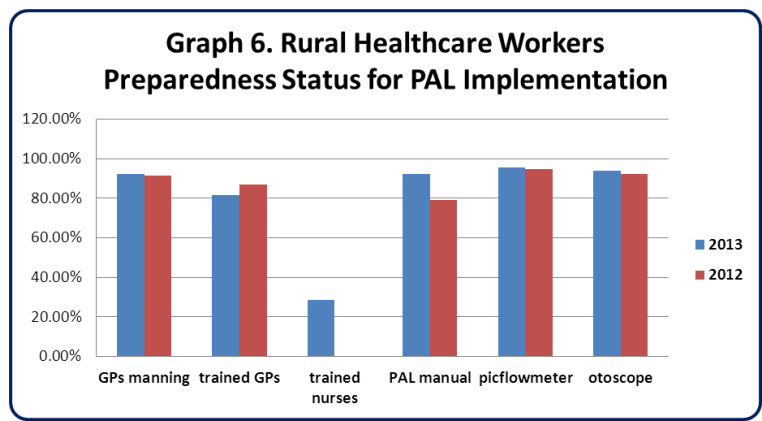
2.3.5 Provide national adolescent SRH centre with additional medical and office equipment. Medical and office equipment for the amount of USD 60,000 was procured to support and increase the quality of the services provided by the Adolescent SRH.

Output 2.4: Improved capacity of Primary Health Care Services in Karakalpakstan to address issues associated with Lung Health (WHO)

Activity 2.4.1: Develop/ revise of PAL clinical guidelines and training tools for health workers (nurses). PAL clinic guidelines for nurses which was reviewed by Professor N.N. Brimkulov, Chief Pulmonologist from the Ministry of Health of Kyrgyzstan and approved by Ministry of Health of Karakalpakstan has been used for developing training materials with further conduction of trainings to nurses. The guideline has been also approved by Ministry of Health of Uzbekistan Republican Centre of Medical Education.

Activity 2.4.2: Trainings of 170 GPs and 120 nurses on PAL strategy. Training of trainers. Four day training sessions were organized by “PAL strategy” trainers from Nukus in Karakalpakstan for general practitioners and nurses from primary health care facilities to strengthen their diagnostic and management skills for timely diagnosis and management of respiratory diseases. Training program has been designed to increase quality of management of patients 5 years and over with respiratory diseases. 51 general practitioners and 44 nurses participated in the trainings. 51 general practitioners increased their knowledge and skills on “PAL strategy” by 20% (58,5%-78,5%) and 44 nurses by 18.4% (66,3% - 84,6%).

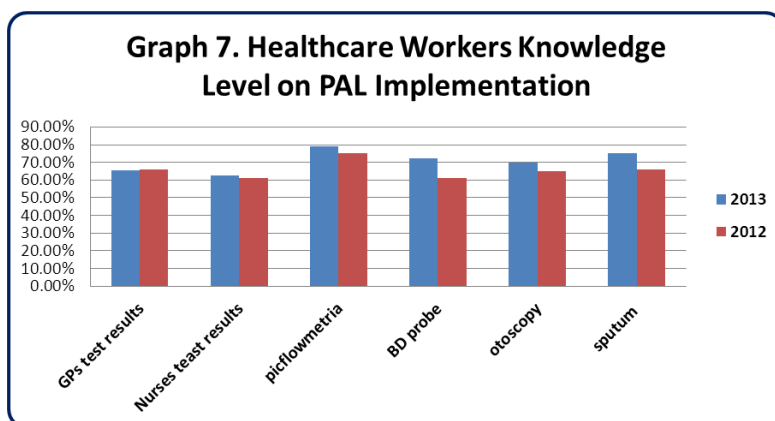
Four days 4 training sessions were organized with participation of “PAL strategy” trainers from Nukus in Karakalpakstan. Training program has been designed to increase quality of providing lung diseases management to patients 5 years and over.



Overall pre and post course tests results of the participants rose from 60% to 82% (24 GPs); from 65,6% to 85,3% (22 Nurses); from 67% to 84% (22 Nurses); and from 57% to 75% (27 GPs) respectively.

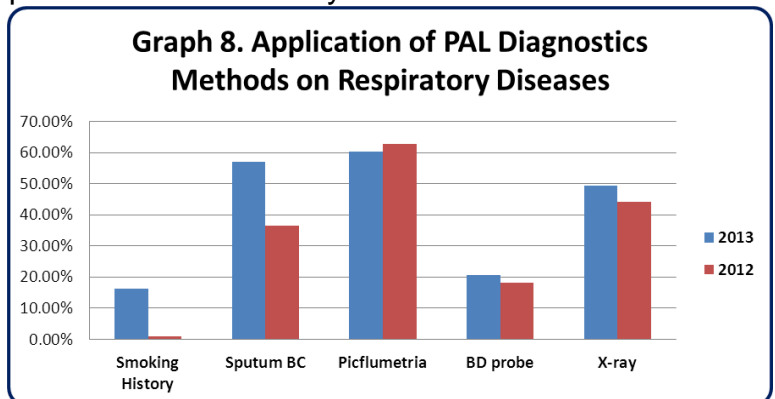
Activity 2.4.3: Monitoring and evaluation of PAL strategy realization in Karakalpakstan. Monitoring of “PAL strategy” implementation was organized with

participation of “PAL strategy” Working Group and experts from the Ministry of Health of



Karakalpakstan. The aim of the monitoring was to assess management of patients with respiratory symptoms by trained general practitioners, to analyze and identify technical, managerial, structural and resource needs, as well as to support the health authorities in capacity building and using of supplied equipment for timely diagnosis of above mentioned

patients in 217 Primary Health facilities located in Karakalpakstan. Some of the results



on the level of knowledge of healthcare workers on PAL implementation and status of preparedness are illustrated in graphs 6-7-8. Preparedness of Primary Health Care facilities on PAL implementation and standard prescription has increasing tendency (from 74,02% to 80,73% and from 65,72% to 70,68% accordingly).

In order to improve practical skills on examination and management of pulmonary patients 322 medical workers participated on one day on-site refresh trainings on “PAL strategy” conducted in 16 districts of Karakalpakstan. The given training courses have been designed to address the needs identified throughout the monitoring process.

Activity 2.4.4: Procurement of 5 medical ventilation apparatus. In February 2014, in consultation with the Ministry of Health of Karakalpakstan, necessary preparatory work has been conducted in order to launch the procurement of the ventilation apparatus to provide a non-invasive respiratory support for patients with chronic respiratory diseases at the rural health facility level. Necessary technical specifications were prepared and shared with the WHO CO for further consideration and for processing the procurement.

Activity 2.4.5: Support PAL working group. Participation at national and international trainings. In order to contribute further development of pulmonology in Karakalpakstan two representatives of the “PAL strategy” Working Group (Bekatova Zumrad, Chief Therapist and Mambetkarimova Guljahan, Chief Pulmonologist of MoH

Karakalpakstan) participated on 6th International congress of Pulmonologists of Central Asia in Osh, Kyrgyzstan. It will bring benefit to implementation of the results of scientific researches in the field of pulmonology, modern advances in the diagnosis and treatment of respiratory diseases, exchange of information and close communication with practitioners and other partners.

Activity 2.4.6: Monitoring of the air quality in Karakalpakstan in coordination with the national authorities. WHO in partnership with Uzgydromet organized the periodic monitoring of the air quality. The following activities were conducted to foster this activity: (i) Filters and other consumables for air quality monitoring purchased by WHO and delivered to UzHydromet. IT equipment for AQM center in Nukus purchased by WHO. Monitoring mission to Nukus done by WHO HCO and NPO, (ii) Inter-sectorial working group established for the development of Standards on PM 2,5/10. Working group meeting held in WHO CO and UzHydromet. The Working Group developed the National Standards on PM monitoring and submitted UZStandart for approval and (iii) Data on air quality monitoring regularly collected by UzHydromet and submitted to WHO Co and WHO/Euro in Bonn.

Output 3.1: Communities have formulated community development plans and implemented priority social infrastructure projects to improve access of the rural population to basic social services, including drinking water and sustainable energy.(UNDP)

Activity 3.1.1: Participatory formulation of community development plans in 50 communities in 3 target districts. Within the protection and empowerment framework, the Programme worked towards promotion of local development initiatives and meaningful engagement of local communities to mitigate the severe consequences of ecological disaster. In this regard, in order to empower and enhance the capacity of community people to identify major socio-economic priority issues and develop social infrastructure projects and integrate bottom-up approach, 46 communities have benefited through conducted capacity building activities including MDGs localization and Community Development Planning (CDP) workshops covering in total 732 community people out of whom 355 were females. Based on this, 44 CDPs were developed that identifies the social and economic priority issues of the target communities. Collaboratively selected, formulated CDPs reflected projects focused on construction and rehabilitation of drinking water supply systems, creation of adequate infrastructure on irrigation system to foster food security, reconstruction works and provision of equipment and inventories for schools, kindergartens and health facilities. Moreover, community initiative group members empowered their knowledge with participatory community appraisal and mobilization of internal and external resources taking ownership of decisions and actions to improve their livelihoods.

Activity 3.1.2: Based on results of above plans, agreement among community members on priority projects and community inputs. The formulation of community development plans took place in a comprehensive and participatory manner by engaging wider group of community representatives. CDP formulation process has a logical set of steps. Starting with inception workshops that identified and prioritized community social infrastructure priorities and helped with establishing community

structure for better organizing and implementing community mobilization activities, the Programme facilitated the process of ranking problems by priority level with community engagement. Once priorities and potential solutions were identified, initiative groups were established that included dynamic, motivated, active citizens to act on behalf of community and actively participate in community mobilization activities during CDP formulation and implementation.

The CDP content comprises community and project description, including its technical feasibility, community mobilization information, list project beneficiaries, budget, M&E information as well as address project sustainability. To support the communities with development of realistic and sustainable CDPs, the Programme staff delivered day training program "Development of project proposals" that covered in particular such core areas as the essence and meaning of CDPs, project cycle, formulation of goals and objectives of the project and its monitoring.

Another essential part of CDP formulation is identification of community contributions for joint implementation of social priority community projects. The implementation of cost-sharing mechanism inspires ownership recognition amongst community people and improves the further sustainability of implemented social projects. UN JP Community Mobilization Consultant and Community Projects Engineer provide support to initiative group members in identification and implementation of community contributions equipping with appropriate communication and monitoring tools.

Notably, it is worth to mention the community contribution provided in Nayman community of Kanlikul district, where community members put their limited financial sources and their labor by digging rows, procured pipes to cover the distance from central water line to their households and as result, each household installed taps in their kitchens and houses. In case of electrification projects, community members provided their contributions in construction of fencing the territory where the power transformer stations are installed. In both cases, specialists from Water and Electricity Supply Department of respective districts have provided guidance and support in implementing technical parts of community contributions.

Based on MOUs signed with Council of Ministers of the Republic of Karakalpakstan and district government offices on participation in decision making process, networking and mobilization of local resources, the regional and district government representatives and sectorial service provision institutions have been providing their support in preparation of technical documentation for projects, adopting the infrastructure projects into inventory of relevant organizations for operation and maintenance, establishment of structures for implementation, monitoring and ensuring sustainability of projects.

Activity 3.1.3 Provision of support in technical design for priority projects. Based on developed community projects, UN JP has facilitated the preparation of technical documentation for projects. The programme hired a Community Projects Engineer to support beneficiaries in preparation of technical design, implementation and registration of priority projects according to technical standards and legislation. In accordance with State Regulation on the procedure for determining the value of design and survey works, the programme signed contract with project institution "Taza Suv", construction

documents (design of civil works) have been developed for replacement of pumps in pump stations in Muynak district and installation of water pipelines in 5 communities of Kanlikul district. These project estimation documents have been reviewed by the Karakalpakstan Board of State Expertise and certified with expertise conclusions.

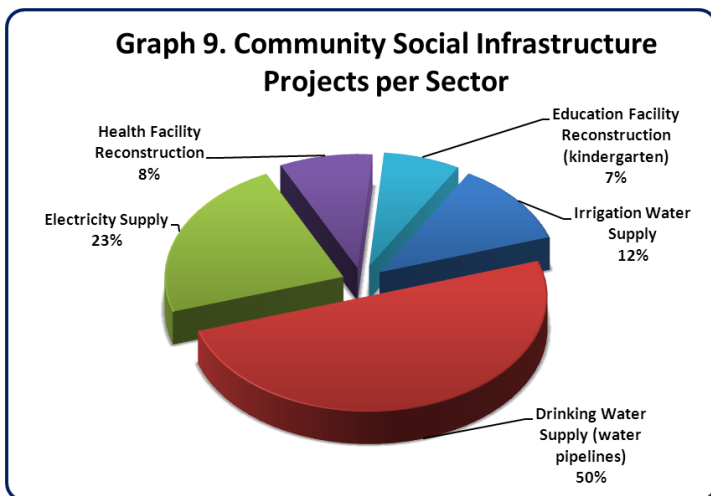
Upon selection of respective vendors based on tender process, according to State regulation, the Programme contracted the Karakalpakstan Branch of the State Architecture and Construction Inspection of the Republic of Uzbekistan in order to conduct supervision and control of construction works for above mentioned water supply projects and irrigation water project in Kazakhdarya community of Muynak district.

The provided support in development of technical documents not only enabled the implementation of construction works and installation of water pipelines in selected communities, but also enhanced the capacity of staff in district sectorial departments on water and electricity supply, public education and healthcare system. In particular, project estimation documents for renovation of kindergarten # 5 in Kanlikul district and reconstruction of secondary school # 2 in Shumanay district have been developed by District Public Education Departments of respective districts by involving private project institutes.

Activity 3.1.4 Implementation of tender process. All the construction companies on installation of water pipelines, procurement and delivery of water pump stations, delivery and installation of solar panels, installation of power transformer stations and implementation of renovation works for rural health pre-school education facilities have been selected based on competitive bidding process. The Programme hired a short term national consultant to assist in preparation of technical documents, conducting tender and processing the bids and cases in accordance with the standard operational procedures of UNDP. Invitation to Bids (ITB) cases have been processed and successfully implemented for delivery and installation of 9 sets of photovoltaic stations to 9 rural health facilities in Muynak district, procurement and delivery of 3 water pumps for provision of access to irrigation water in Shagirli, Kipshakdarya and Shege communities of Muynak district, delivery and installation of power transformer stations to 5 communities in Kanlikul district and 4 communities in Shumanay district. Request for Quotations (RFQ) cases have been processed and implemented for renovation works of 2 rural health facilities and 1 kindergarten in Moinak district, replacement of water pumps and installation of water pipeline to schools # 4 and 6 in Moinak district, installation of water pipeline to Nayman, Uzaq aul, Ajiniyaz and Juzimgershilik communities of Kanlikul district. The given cases have been evaluated by Evaluation Panel Members and contracts issued with selected construction and supplier companies.

Activity 3.1.5 At least 50 social infrastructure rehabilitation projects (water, electricity, gas, etc) completed. As a result of community mobilization and capacity building activities, 22 community social infrastructure projects (Graph 9) are in process of implementation, which aim to improve access to quality drinking and irrigation water, electricity, health and educational facilities for 31 communities benefiting more than 34,242 local inhabitants. Currently, 14 community projects were fully completed, 8 are in the process of implementation. Out of them, 3 community projects on irrigation water

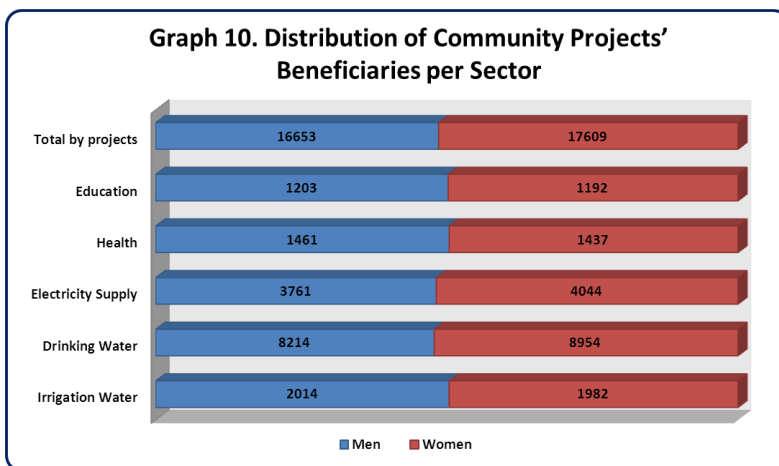
supply enables 658 households of 5 communities in Muynak district created an environment to do small scale farming in their plot lands thus ensuring household



access to a wider variety of food products and provide food security. Another 9 projects on electricity supply by installation of power supply transformers provided concrete and sustainable benefits to 3761 rural inhabitants in 10 communities by ensuring access to electrical amenities.

Simultaneously, these community projects enable the 6 secondary schools and 7 rural health facilities

to effectively serve their target audience. Aimed at addressing the issues on lack of access to quality drinking water, the programme have recently completed the



implementation of water supply project in Nayman community of Kanlikul district that reduced the labor of women and children of more than 60 households who used to carry water from hand pumps located 300 meters away. Moreover, 6 more water supply projects has launched in target 11 communities to ensure improved access to

safe drinking water thus promoting the provision of health security in the region. Infrastructure projects on reconstruction of 2 rural health facilities motivate the healthcare workers to provide health services more efficiently and increases the referral of around 3000 rural population in getting quality health services. By kindergarten renovation, 40 children from 3 communities will have preschool education in a nicely renovated facility. Bringing these multiple efforts together in an integrated fashion provided benefits to 34,262 rural inhabitants (out of them 17,609 are women beneficiaries that comprise 51.4% in 31 communities (see Graph 10) in terms of providing clean drinking and irrigation water, electricity supply, improved health and educational facilities empowering their social well-being and health status throughout the target districts.

Activity 3.1.6 Assessments and monitoring of project outputs and impact on human security in target communities. The Programme has a comprehensive Monitoring and Evaluation Framework which covers in depth monitoring events of the Programme and contains a fairly extensive range of monitoring indicators and means of verification that were planned to be implemented within the annual cycles.

As per community projects implementation process, the Programme team conducted several monitoring visits to assess the process of construction works and implementation of community contributions and provided their recommendations for further improvements. In addition, number of community level assessments was conducted by the project team to find out the impact of community projects on the human security in the target communities. It has found out that those projects have significantly impacted in improving the living standards of the target rural population. Specifically, thanks to the water supply projects, the community people now have access to safe drinking water thereby warranted to be healthier and women and youth who used to carry water from distances now have released from this work and can spend their time for self-pleasure, spend more time on studying, etc. Likewise, the electrification projects along with improvement of electricity access by households, have also significantly improved the productivity of the rural level SMEs which are located in the territory of communities that now have better and uninterrupted access to electricity. The Programme plans to conduct more comprehensive impact assessment of the community projects and its impact on human security in the mid of 2014 as by this time more communities will have social projects completed.

Activity 3.1.7: Evaluate the effectiveness and re-assess the scope of work of existing resource centers. This activity has been accomplished in 2012.

Activity 3.1.8: Support provided to existing resource centers in 7 districts (capacity building of the staff of the RCs). A 3-day workshop on strategic planning was conducted for 23 representatives (including 13 women) from district women committees, “Kamolot” youth movement, “Makhalla” fund, Chamber of Commerce, Business Women Association and resource centers established with financial support of UNDP in Karakalpakstan. Based on the results of the trainings evaluations 56% of participants were completely satisfied with results of training, 44% - partially satisfied. Throughout the workshop sessions representatives of 5 fully functioning centers have developed their business projects with updated action plans revisiting their strategies and approaches to make it more people-centered, obtained tools on sustainable management and diversification of services portfolio.

Activity 3.1.9: New resource centers at the District level in 3 target districts. The main objectives to set up these resource centers was to strengthen the linkage between citizens and local government, increase access to information on the issues of regional importance, enhance the level of information dissemination on MDGs, human security, and other regional issues, and to ultimately address issues of governance in the area. Among other things, the resource centers will give its citizens the possibility to use the Internet as a tool for accessing information and online services provided by public institutions. The resource centers also serve as a platform for the local government to gather information from its citizens. With this purpose, 3 Information Resource Centers in the form of One Stop Shops are being created in Shomanay, Kanlikul, and Muynak districts. Those one stop shops are being established in close partnership with local Khokimyats based on the MOUs signed. It is envisioned that those established centers will increase the capacity of the workers of the local government to provide better services to the local population and different organizations.

2 business advisory service delivery centers are being established in Turtkul and Shomanay. 1- one stop shop in Turtkul district in partnership with the Chamber of Commerce of Karakalpakstan, and 1- consultancy and advisory services center in Shumanay district. It is envisioned that those established centers will provide consultancy services on how to establish and run enterprises, and also provide consultancy to the established SMEs, farms and dekhani enterprises. It is envisioned that all those centers will provide consultancy to more than 100 farms and dekhani enterprises and for around 40 SMEs in those four districts.

Activity 3.1.10 Improving access to Energy Resources (including alternative) natural gas distribution system within Aral Shore communities in Muynak District.

As a follow up of activities launched in 2012 with the purpose of piloting the alternative energy in public buildings of Muynak district, considering the prevailing electricity shortage and based on the result of the feasibility study of the needs of rural healthcare facilities in Muynak district - 9 rural health centers in Muynak district were selected for the establishment of photovoltaic sites. The photovoltaic systems will provide 9 rural health clinics with access to renewable electricity for their lighting and for running their medical equipment, at times when power is off.

This activity will increase the rate of community people referral to healthcare facilities and provide continuous work of medical equipment. Currently, the tender has been completed for this activity and contract with vendor has been signed. It is envisioned that the population of the Muynak district (29,000 people) will have better access to healthcare services through improved facilities in the nine 9 Rural Healthcare facilities. Also, Ministry of Health of Karakalpakstan will benefit through better facilities established for its employees in the Rural healthcare facilities that in turn will create better working environment for healthcare workers to provide better and timely services to the local population that suffer and live in the environmentally insecure district. The delivery of the Solar Panels and installation activities planned to be completed in the first months of the 2014.

Output 3.2: Regional authorities supported in creation of data base, and trained in basic data management and analysis, including data disaggregated by gender. The database as well skills on data management provides grounds for detailed and appropriate situation analysis, defining short and long-term risks, and development more effective strategies for better monitoring and evaluation of progress towards human security goals in the target region (UNDP)

Activity 3.2.1: Provision of computers and tailor-made software. This activity has been completed in 2012 through procurement and provision of 10 computers to the Ministry of Economy of Karakalpakstan for collection, analysis and storage of data for tracking socioeconomic indicators reflecting various aspects of human security in the region. The necessary capacity building trainings were also delivered to the relevant specialists of the ministry on using MDGs statistics and DevInfo database software program. This activity has been also linked further to foster the Activity 3.2.2 as indicated below.

Activity 3.2.2: Agreement with regional authorities on indicators to be included in database. By applying a comprehensive human security framework, the Programme targets to increase the capacity of regional authorities of the region, in particular the Ministry of Economy of Karakalpakstan to obtain a sound data management system that allows them to elaborate human security analysis which helps to access the needs, vulnerabilities and capacities of people and districts in a disaggregated manner. In this regard, 159 human development indicators have been. With this purpose, the draft concept note on human security and 159 human development indicators on ecological, health, economic and food security have been finalized. The developed list of indicators were reviewed and discussed with group of experts appointed by the Ministry of Economy of Karakalpakstan as well as representatives of other ministries. The presentation of human security concept and indicators were conducted for the relevant specialists from the Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Health, and Ministry of Agriculture of Karakalpakstan.

Activity 3.2.3: Support to creation of database. In addition to the works conducted in 2012, the Programme continued its support on creation of the database including the use of the DevInfo system by the Ministry of Economy of Karakalpakstan. Currently, specialists from the Ministry of Economy of Karakalpakstan are processing necessary data based on developed indicators (base on Activity 3.2.2.) for inclusion of database. According to developed indicators, it is planned that in the 1 quarter of 2014 to create a database for the Ministry of Economy of Karakalpakstan and train ministry staff on data processing and analysis, which creates favorable conditions for using software databases that subsequently decreases workload in terms of referring to data in hard copies. Following actions will be taken in the 1 quarter 2014: (1) Official approval of working group members and their roles on creation and application of database by Council of Ministers of Karakalpakstan; (2) Develop database by involving National Consultant; (3) Identify IT equipment needs of Ministry of Economy of Karakalpakstan and procurement of server for storing and processing of data of the database; (4) Conduct on the job training for working group members and related ministries' specialists on database application and management; and (5) Develop Analytical Statistical Report based on created database as end product and publicize in online and offline information resources.

Output 3.3: Regional and district governments' trained in the human security approach, sustainable development and the principles of results-based management (UNDP, UNESCO).

Activity 3.3.1: Training of 5 trainers in Karakalpakstan by Academy for State Construction in Tashkent. This activity has been completed in 2012 and certified local trainers assisted in conducting training on "Results Based Management" which has been held in August 2013 for 28 representatives of regional and district level government and public organizations.

Activity 3.3.2: Development of simple training courses and packages on the Human Security Approach, Sustainable Development and Results Based Management. The Programme jointly with Fund for Aral Gene Pool Protection prepared

a database documenting donor profiles and their activities from 2006 -2011 in Aral Sea region. Based on this data the national experts of Aral Gene Pool Fund developed the report, which includes the analysis of effectiveness of donor assistance in Karakalpakstan and the recommendations to donor and the government for effective partnership and coordination in the implementation of projects and programmes in the Aral Sea region.

The report was then presented to the Center for Economic Research under President Office for a peer review. The results of peer review were presented on the roundtable with participation of UN agencies and UNDP /GEF projects. Donor Assessment Report “Report on Donor Activities in the Republic of Karakalpakstan for 2006-2011 years” has been finalized and printed out and now being disseminated.

The Programme staff in collaboration with the consultants developed the training modules on Human Security Approach, Sustainable Development and Results Based Management. Those materials were further used during the capacity building trainings conducted within the frame of the Programme for the specialists and representatives of the government and public organizations under the Activity 3.3.3.

Activity 3.3.3: Training provided to government officials from regional government bodies, and from three target districts. Alongside with bottom-up empowerment, the programme also continued initiating top-down protection by fostering capacity building of regional and local authorities that can help align efforts at all levels to ensure that both actor-specific and collective actions reduce the human, economic and social costs of Aral Sea ecological disaster more efficiently and effectively. In August 2013 trainings on “Human Security Concept”, “Results Based Management”, “Sustainable Development” and “Gender Statistics” has been conducted in total for 83 participants, out of them 44 are women.

Human Security Concept training conducted for 28 representatives of ministries and local authorities. According to pre-test results, out of 27 responded participants 37% haven't heard about human security concept, 52% are partly aware and 11% are well aware about the concept. Upon completion of training, 93.1% of participants indicated that training was useful, 88.2% indicated they received deep understanding about HS concept, 90.2% understood relationship between human development, security and rights. 88.2 got deep understanding of principles on HS and MDG.

Training on Results Based Management covered 18 participants from the same cohort group and 16 participants submitted evaluation forms. According to post evaluation results, 88.5% of participants indicated they have received useful information, 87.5% get deeper understanding of RBM, 84.4% had learned results based budgeting.

Training on Sustainable Development presented to 18 participants. Based on results of pre-test evaluation, majority of participants were not aware about Sustainable Development Concept. Upon completion of training, 83% have received deep knowledge on sustainable development, ecological trace, interrelations and

contradictions of environment and development, educational concept towards sustainable development. It is recommended to make a thorough selection of target audience, identify major environment protection and SD issues are specific for the region and propose possible solutions.

Training on gender statistics conducted for 20 representatives of local authorities and specialists of the Ministry of Economy of Karakalpakstan based on developed training module by a National Consultant. The training participants studied gender aspects in management of statistic data and methods of gender analysis. Prior to conducting above trainings preliminary needs assessment questionnaire developed and disseminated to 39 candidates. Out of them, 28 have been chosen for participation in the training. Based on of post test results, 100% provided positive feedback to training program and contents and 83% highly evaluated the overall training delivery including the presentations and group works. Over 80% participants indicated the importance of training on knowledge sharing and development of new skills in terms of gender statistic data management. It is strongly recommended that Gender Statistics training activity does not remain a one-time event, but the opportunity to continuously mainstream gender concerns into the Programme initiatives, with progress on it specially monitored, so that further lessons may be established.

Progress towards the achievement of the outputs i.e. outputs accomplished and level of accomplishment (as measured against the stated outputs in the log frame)

Outputs	OVI	Progress	Recommendations/Comments
<p><u>Output 1.1</u></p> <p>30% of dekhkan farmers in 50 target communities have implemented improved agriculture and livestock production practices, which are environmentally sustainable, and address the impact of climate change.</p>	<p>- # Dekhkans farmers have adopted and replicated improved agricultural practices</p> <p>- # agriculture extension agents established</p> <p>- # of new crops and trees introduced and disseminated to Dekhkan</p>	<p>- 18 extension service providers trained from 3 regions of southern Karakalpakstan trained (UNESCO);</p> <p>- 100 dekhkan farmers trained in improved agriculture practices (UNESCO).</p> <p>- 78 farmers including local extension agents trained on application land laser leveling technology;</p> <p>- 63 business projects supported for setting up of demonstration plots in</p>	<p>- Further strengthen partnership with the Council of Farmers and Association of Bee Farmers to ensure continuous demand and referral of farmers for agro-consultancy services and replication of best practices;</p> <p>- Develop a mechanism for replication and scaling up of improved agriculture practices.</p> <p>- Maintain continuous collaboration with MASHAV and GEF SGP</p>

<p>(UNDP, UNESCO)</p>	<p>farmers based on research by the UNESCO/ZEF project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - # of sustainable veterinary points active in providing support to Dekhkan farms - # Dekhkan farms supported in bringing degraded land back into use - An extension service provider is established in the three target districts - Improved pasture management systems introduced in ten pilot communities 	<p>the field of agriculture, livestock, poultry and fish farming, sewing shops, greenhouse, bee farming, craftsmanship, small size food production such as bakery shops, tourism development, etc. Of 63, 57 projects completed and 6 are ongoing;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 98 new jobs created for vulnerable population based on supported 63 business projects; - 2 demonstration sites (033 and 040 ha) have been established in southern Karakalpakstan (UNESCO); - 62 dekhkan farmers in Lower-Amudarya biosphere buffer zone trained in sustainable management of natural resources and bee farming development; - 50 demonstration plots were indentified and being supported on improving degraded land back into use and income generation, out of them, 22 demo plots on bee farming, 28 on vegetable production; - 21 rural women trained on cattle breeding and veterinary services provision; - 509 households of Kazakhdarya community received access to irrigation water by reconstruction of canal 	<p>in introduction of improved agricultural practices.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Continue facilitating the provision of vulnerable women with land by the local government authorities for further income generating activities. - Capacity building of veterinary service provision points by supplying with necessary equipment and inventories; <p>Further enhance partnership with UNWOMEN and Women Committee of Uzbekistan and Karakalpakstan to scale up women's empowerment economic initiatives</p> <p>Planned activities: In all above indicated recommendations, the Programme is planning and already undertaking number of activities in order to scale up and institutionalize the initiated pilot initiatives by the Programme as per the workplan for 2014. (please see also Impact of key partnerships and inter-agency collaboration section and Sustainability section for some details of collaboration, its</p>
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		<p>and installation of pump station;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 16 demonstration plots on pasture management established; - 5 demonstration plots (10 ha of land in various forest conditions of Muynak district) selected for establishment based on MOU signed between the UNDP CO (within the frame of the UN JP) and Kazakhdarya Forestry Department of Muynak District; 	<p>results as well as what is planned)</p> <p>Also in order to further ensure the sustainability of the initiatives under the UNESCO, it is expected that NGO KRASS will continue its extension work and consultancy services to the rural population of the regions. It is expected that necessary support will be provided in the future by regional administration, ministry of agriculture and water resources, council of farmers, and private organizations. During 2014, activities will be conducted to ensure this plan.</p>
<p><u>Output 1.2</u></p> <p>At least two eco-tourism sites are developed within Karakalpakst an region. (UNESCO)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - # of sites established - # of International tourists visiting sites and making use of the facilities - Level of employment (# of jobs) generated by ecotourism activities - Income generated through tourist visits at different 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Field visits for analyses and information collection on the current situation of tourism sector carried out; - 2 sites for a visitor and information centers have been selected. The activities for the establishment of the centers are under completion; - 2 capacity-building activities conducted in the field of sustainable tourism development in Karakalpakstan ; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - It is recommended to facilitate dialogue on government level to develop a strategy and regulation on tourism development at the governmental level of Karakalpakstan - It is recommended to create a tourism infrastructure at the archeological sites of Karakalpakstan <p>Planned activities: (i) it is planned to further enhance partnership with the National and Regional Uzbek Tourism</p>

	<p>sites</p> <p>- Level of satisfaction of guests</p>		<p>offices in order to work to facilitate processing with above recommendations.</p> <p>(ii) The UNESCO also plans to sign MOUs with the two tourist centers it is now supporting in Djambas kala and in NABR in order to ensure that upon the completion of the Programme activities those partners will sustain and keep continuing the agreed works. Additionally, number of capacity building activities for the staff of the partners are planned for 2014.</p>
<p><u>Output 1.3</u></p> <p>Increased income-generation opportunities for 100 women and people with disabilities through improved entrepreneurial skills and production and marketing of local handicrafts (UNESCO, UNFPA)</p>	<p>- # of women trained in the production of handicrafts</p> <p>- # of women trained on entrepreneurial skills</p> <p>- Revenue generated through sales of handicrafts</p>	<p>- 1 site for a crafts' centre has been selected. The activities for the establishment of the centre are under implementation;</p> <p>- 50 persons trained on entrepreneurial skills and gender issues</p>	<p>- It is recommended to establish a centralized body for coordination of craftspeople and activities in Karakalpakstan at all levels.</p> <p>- Maintaining continuous cooperation with GIZ on conducting market research on handicraft development.</p> <p>- Enhancing women's economic participation contributed to increasing of living standards and overall empowerment of women. However thorough evaluation of the impact is required after sufficient time would pass since the beginning</p>

			<p>of this initiative in order to assess effectiveness and replicability of this approach. At the same time this experience could serve as a good example of cooperation of UNFPA with different partners in the area of women's empowerment.</p> <p>Planned activities: In order to achieve above indicated recommendations the Programme will work (as envisioned in activity 1.3.3.) on establishing a crafts' center within the Karakalpak Branch of the Academy of Art of Uzbekistan. The activities will be conducted to repair and equip center with furniture and computers, providing job opportunities for the unemployed population, including youths and women, as well as conducting practical trainings in the field of traditional handicrafts. Eventually, the Karakalpak branch of the Academy of Art will play the role of centralized body for all craftspeople of Karakalpakstan. It is planned also to sign a MOU with the UNESCO and Academy by the time of completion of the Programme in order to ensure that initiated</p>
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			<p>activities will be sustainably deployed further by this body.</p> <p>The UNFPA will continue working with Women's Committee, some other local NGOs and UNWomen on engaging women trained in entrepreneurship activities in order to ensure the sustainability of the initiatives. The regional programme staff will be engaged in monitoring the activities of the local partners and provide also necessary capacity building support.</p>
<p><u>Output 2.1</u></p> <p>Capacity of primary health care service providers to ensure contraceptive commodity security and provide quality family planning services is enhanced in 10 target districts with a specific focus on young people</p>	<p>- Contraceptives delivered to end users.</p> <p>Baseline: 100% of Service Delivery Points has no stock-out of contraceptives</p> <p>Target: 100% of Service Delivery Points remain protected from stock-outs for the entire period of the project</p> <p>- # of trainings provided on</p>	<p>- All primary health care level facilities in Karakalpakstan are protected from contraceptives stock outs</p> <p>– monitoring by the rural health center under the MOH;</p> <p>-5 training sessions provided for 125 health care service providers in 2013. Cumulative number is 250 health care providers in 2 years.</p>	<p>- MoH maintains commitment to improving family health services and availability of contraception. More monitoring of availability of contraceptives and quality of family planning services is needed from the side of staff of Programme office. It is advisable to establish regular contacts between UNFPA and local Joint Programme staff on this issue.</p> <p>Planned activities: To ensure the sustainability of quality improvement</p>

(UNFPA)	<p>family planning and counseling</p> <p>Baseline: 0</p> <p>Target: 5 per year</p>		<p>measures of family planning services, currently the Programme staff together with the UNFPA head office and MOH of KK are developing detailed action plan based on which necessary monitoring and consultancy will be provide to the relevant staff of the MOH.</p> <p>Increasing quality of family planning services and ensuring availability of contraceptives will remain in the focus of UNFPA work even after the end of the joint Programme. UNFPA has long-term relationships with the Ministry of Health at central and local level and will continue working on improvement of the services in particular through further strengthening system of contraceptive supply and increasing health providers' skills.</p>
<p><u>Output 2.2.</u></p> <p><u>1500</u> community and volunteer health care workers trained as apprentices in a health fellowship program</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Incidence of kidney stones in target districts - Incidence of respiratory diseases in target districts - Mortality due to respiratory 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Survey has been conducted covering 1088 respondents from seven districts, to establish a data baseline on the level of public information about respiratory diseases. The results were also utilized for development of appropriate training 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Further fostering the cooperation with the partners on institutionalization of volunteerism <p>Planned activities: The Programme already managed to endorse the mutual action plan by the</p>

<p>sanctioned by the Ministry of Health to decrease incidences of respiratory and other infections associated with environmental degradation and climate change. (UNV/UNDP)</p>	<p>diseases in target districts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - TB incidence in target districts - # of volunteers trained 	<p>materials for the volunteer health care workers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -High level round table, chaired by the Deputy Chairwoman of the Council of Ministers, took place with participation of representatives from above mentioned institutions in order to explain the scheme to those who will put it in practice and will be hired as part-time UN Volunteers. <p>8 spirometers with sufficient amount of mouthpieces were procured</p>	<p>Council of Ministers of Karakalpakstan on institutionalization of volunteerisms to the healthcare sector which have detailed mutual actions. Therefore during the 2014, the Programme will be further working based on this action plan through involving five organizations in Karakalpakstan (the Ministry of Health, Association of Nurses, Women's Committee, fund "Mahalla" and Medical Institute), which took part in developing the mutual action plan on institutionalization of volunteering.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There is a need to establish database of the community volunteers, ideally within the MOH <p>Planned activity: The Programme already started working with the Ministry of Health of Karakalpakstan , where the database will be created. One of the staff of the MOH is being hired on the part-time based UNV contract to work on this activity. The Programme staff is proving necessary technical support in order to ensure that database system will be sustainability managed. The capacity trainings for</p>
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			<p>the relevant staff of the MOH on maintaining the database will be also provided during the second half of the 2014.</p> <p>To ensure the sustainability of activities guided by UNV it is planned to increase the involvement of local personnel into planning and implementation of community mobilization activities by health care apprentices.</p>
<p><u>Output 2.3</u></p> <p>Access of young people of 15-24 years of age to quality information and youth-friendly services on HIV –infection prevention and sexual and reproductive health is improved. (UNFPA)</p>	<p>-% of young people aged 15-24 having comprehensive knowledge on HIV prevention Baseline: 35,5% (MICS2006) Target: at least 80 % people aged 15-24 having comprehensive knowledge on HIV prevention; - # of young people trained as peer educators on SRH Baseline: 0 Target: at least 10 per district (250 in total)</p> <p>- % of health care providers trained in adolescent</p>	<p>- Progress on this indicator will be assessed by the end of the project as part of national survey</p> <p>- 100 young people were trained on HIV/AIDS/TB prevention and SRH issues</p> <p>- 84 health care providers were trained on adolescent SRH and Youth Friendly Health Services (YFHS)</p>	<p>- The government remains committed to improving access of young people to youth friendly services of HIV-infection prevention and sexual and reproductive health.</p> <p>- Trained young people need to be actively engaged in the work with communities and other young people. More monitoring and support is needed from the side of local Joint Programme office staff.</p> <p>Planned activities: The Programme is planning to further use the Y-Peer's trainers to provide info sessions on HIV/TB and other respiratory diseases at colleges and schools of five target</p>

	<p>sexual and reproductive health</p> <p>Baseline: 0</p> <p>Target: at least 1 per every Rural Physician Post (SVP) in target 10 districts (at least 150 in total)</p>		<p>districts the region, where the UNV activities are taking place.</p> <p>In 2013 UNFPA established partnership with Women's Committee on nationwide initiate Orast Youshlar (Diligent Youth) that is heavily based on using peer education as a vehicle for promoting healthy lifestyle, including HIV and TB prevention among youth. It is planned that the volunteers trained in the course of the project will be employed by this initiative for working in the communities and educational establishments under this initiative.</p>
<p><u>Output 2.4</u></p> <p>Improved capacity of Primary Health Care Services in Karakalpakstan to address issues associated with Lung Health (WHO)</p>	<p>-TB incidence in target districts</p> <p>- Number of PHC medical personnel trained</p> <p>-Respective equipment for PAL provided</p>	<p>- Based on MoH Karakalpakstan records TB incidence in Karakalpakstan is 102 per 100 000 population</p> <p>TB prevalence in Karakalpakstan 401.6 per 100 000 population</p> <p>- # 51 General Practitioners and 44 Nurses trained on 4 training sessions “PAL strategy” (100%)</p> <p>- 219 PHC institutions monitored on ensuring of “PAL strategy” implementation: picfluometres -95,7%; otoscope – 93,9%; sputum containers 95,7%; “PAL strategy” manual -92,2%.</p>	<p>- To develop effective strategic planning collection and availability of the accurate data crucial. It is recommended to improve respiratory patients’ registration system and provide training how to operate on this format. Make additional notice on filling patient’s record card.</p> <p>- Increase proportion of trained nurses, as more sustainable medical staff especially in remote areas.</p> <p>Planned activities: The Programme will further continue advising the Ministry of Health to</p>

		-16 One day on-site refresh trainings conducted (100%)	<p>improve supervision visits, provide capacity building support on this direction as well as conduct joint monitoring trips to make sure that relevant staff of the MOH and Rural health care facilities will be equipped with all necessary skills and knowledge to conduct planned activities including planning, data collection, and conducting analysis.</p> <p>To ensure the sustainability of the PAL strategy implementation guided by WHO it is planned to increase the involvement of local medical personnel from General Practices into planning and implementation of Health services quality improvement projects. Currently being prepared implementation of "Raising Public Awareness and efficient implementation PAL strategy" at model general practice. Technical support for Ministry of Health provided from UNJP under guidance of WHO and UNV.</p>
<u>Output 3.1</u> 50 communities have formulated community development	- #of community plans developed - # of community	-44 community plans developed; - Implementation of 22 community social	- It is recommended to continue capacity-building of local CBOs to ensure sustainability of community mobilization

<p>plans and implemented priority social infrastructure projects to improve access of the rural population to basic social services, including drinking water and sustainable energy (UNDP)</p>	<p>projects implemented</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - # of people with improved access to basic services such as water, gas and electricity - Ten resource centres functioning and sustainable - the fuel wood cutting is reduced 	<p>infrastructure projects supported. Of 22, 14 completed, 8 ongoing;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Capacity of 5 existing Resource Centers increased on strategic planning; - Establishment of 2 new Resource Centers and 3 One Stop Shops initiated and supported with office furniture and IT equipment; - Feasibility study of introduction of demonstration projects on energy efficiency and renewable energy in public buildings in Muynak district completed; - Contract with vendor on procurement and installation of solar panels for the 9 rural healthcare clinics in Muynak district signed; 	<p>activities;</p> <p>Planned activities: It is envisioned to organize workshops on organizational management, project proposal design and data management for representatives of Village Councils of Citizens from 3 target districts and local government specialists during May –June 2014;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Area specific and demand-driven concept about functions of One Stop Shops should be developed and capacity-building trainings conducted; <p>Planned activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Guidelines of the Cabinet of Ministers of Uzbekistan on establishment of OSS and UNDP LGSP concept are now being studied and analyzed by the relevant programme staff; - Based on analysis, area specific and demand-driven concept about OSS functions will be developed by second quarter of 2014; - Capacity building trainings will be conducted for OSS staff by involving national consultants; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Relevant specialists should be trained on further maintenance of alternative energy sources (solar panels)
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<p><u>Output 3.2</u></p> <p>Regional authorities supported in creation of data base, and trained in basic data management and analysis, including data disaggregated by gender, for better monitoring and evaluation of</p>	<p>- Open-access data base with key socio-economic indicators developed;</p> <p>- # of new training modules introduced for capacity building on processing of primary data</p>	<p>- Training modules on MDG statistics and DevInfo developed;</p> <p>-20 representatives of the Ministry of Economy of Karakalpakstan are trained.</p> <p>- 159 human development indicators developed for creation of database and human security concept finalized</p>	<p>- It is necessary to continue establish collaboration with academic institutions in order to include the developed modules into the academic curricula, in order to ensure sustainability.</p> <p>Planned activities: - It is envisioned to attract more teaching staff from Karakalpak State University and Nukus State Pedagogical</p>

<p>progress towards human security goals in the target region (UNDP)</p>	<p>and production of quality statistical information;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - # of government officials trained in applied statistics and monitoring and evaluation methodology. 		<p>Institute for upcoming trainings (March, May 2014) on Human Security Concept and Gender Mainstreaming;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Upon establishment of database, it is envisioned to develop an information material reflecting socio-economic situation of districts in Karakalpakstan with human security approach and share with academic institutions;
<p><u>Output 3.3</u></p> <p>Regional and district governments' trained in the human security approach, sustainable development and the principles of results-based management (UNDP, UNESCO)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - #of regional and district local government officials trained; - training materials developed in different subject areas; - # of trainer of trainers trained by Academy of State Construction; -# of projects, included into the Action Plan, as well as Memorandums and other agreements of parties, involved in its implementation; - # of projects, included into the 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training modules on human security concept, sustainable development and MDG; - Capacity of national trainers in designing and conducting training modules developed. - 83 regional and district government representatives increased their capacity in the human security approach, sustainable development, gender statistics and the principles of results-based management; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There is a need to develop a mechanism for continuous use of trainers' capacity <p>Planned activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Group of certified trainers will be involved in upcoming training activities of UN Joint Programme and recommended as trainers for other UN projects in the country. - It has been already observed that those trained specialists are being attracted by other donors in their capacity building and training activities in the region. - As one of the trainers is from the Karakalpak State University the discussions are ongoing about inclusion of some of the modules to the university academic courses so the trainers prepared by the UN JP can lead those modules;

	database;		
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Implementation constraints, including plans for addressing them

Implementation challenges and constraints are presented by implementing agency:

UNDP: Some of the challenges faced, and reported on, during project implementation included:

Implementation:

- Due to the temporary suspension of the Programme Coordination Office operations in Tashkent, there was some time needed to adjust for new changes. However, this suspension also played positive role in reducing the layers of oversight and regulation in program implementation. Therefore, based on the direct oversight and coordination from the UNDP CO the daily management of the Programme implementation shifted to the regional level at which all essential elements of information are available to ensure the maximum effectiveness and efficiency of Programme implementation. **The main reason for the temporary suspension was the staff turnover and the fact that PR specialist left for maternity leave. However, necessary backstopping arrangements were developed to ensure smooth work of the Programme through hiring temporary specialists. Currently, the consultations are taking place with the main national partners of the Programme including the Ministry of the Economy of Uzbekistan and Geno Fund in order to find the best ways of arranging the work of the Tashkent office from the perspective of enhancing the work on sustainability and scaling up of the Programme activities.**
- Considering that the UN JP budget was formulated in 2011, there is a need to consider the allocation of additional funds within the first and second components of the UN JP to achieve the targets defined at the initial level. For instance, the UN JP document indicates that in average the community based social projects should be around \$ 8,000 to \$ 10,000. However, currently due to lager size of the community projects as well as change of market prices for construction items and labor works in last few years the average cost of projects came up as \$ 19,000. This leads to the fact that set targets in the project document to complete 50 community infrastructure projects will not be met. For this reason, the Programme has recently submitted to the UNDP CO Senior Management consideration request for allocation of additional TRAC funds to implement at least 32 community projects in total in project lifetime.
- In terms of implementation of the community based social projects, the process of preparation necessary documents was time demanding. Specifically, takes time to prepare the following documents: architectural and planning documents for construction works, project estimation documents and obtaining expert

institutions conclusions. Particularly for preparation of the project-estimation documents, the Programme needs to conduct tender for identification of the project institute. As a next step, the Programme signs contract with the State Expertise Agency for development of the expert conclusion on the works of the project institute. Only after this process, the documents for community projects are eligible for tendering. The programme deployed IC based Engineer in order to foster and overcome above indicated constrains. The necessary alterations were made into the annual work plan, with respect to the additional activities and time needed to develop the complete package of documents required for the construction activities within the implementation of community development plans. Ideally, the deployment of the SC based Project Engineer would have helped to foster further the infrastructure projects implementation. Currently, the Programme plans to bring this proposal to the Programme Board meeting for consideration and agreement.

- While Programme's main activities target 3 districts, they are remote in terms of locations. This had some consequences in terms of time demand for mobilization of communities, conducting preparation works in the fields, and work with local partners. It had implications in terms of delaying some activities especially in 2012. To address this issue, the Programme has deployed short term local facilitators (trained with necessary skills to be advocates of human security approach) to work daily with local authorities and communities. Those facilitators eventually played also key role in further promoting the human security approach at lowest levels such as communities. It in fact effected positively in terms of empowering communities to engage in planning and implementing the Programme objectives.
- The project duration is by and large sufficient to produce the planned outputs, but sustainability and institutionalization of results is a concern, this also related to the fact of late launch of the Programme activities in 2012. This could not have been realistically expected within the time-frame of the programme and there is therefore a strong case of extending or starting a follow-up project for at least one year to consolidate results. If the objective of the project had been to undertake pilot activities, then three years might have been sufficient. The Programme will be thus, working on resource mobilization in order to attract additional funding including from the UNDP TRAC funds and possibly from UNTFHS too.

Stakeholders, partners & implementing agencies:

- Lack of fiscal decentralization limits the scope for local authorities to set priorities, allocate resources and take charge of the implementation of the locally driven strategies and policies, and while the individual community-based social infrastructure community projects make significant effects to the quality of target population, there is a need for further support in terms of consolidation and institutionalization in order to ensure long-term sustainability and replication. Therefore, the Programme is fostering the Community Development Plans lobbying workshops for the representatives of the various ministers in order to be able to include the issues and problems defined in the CDPs to the regional

budget for further funding. This activity is a key in order to institutionalize and scale up the Programme initiatives at the grass-roots level. In addition, the Programme is partnering with UNDP Project “Enhancing Capacity for Economic Forecasting and Planning at National and Regional Level”. This UNDP project is working on developing the Regional Development Strategy for Karakalpakstan in partnership with Institute for Forecasting and Macroeconomic Research under the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan. Thus, collaboration is very fruitful in terms of including best practices of the Programme to the Regional Strategy.

- In overall, funding and institutional capacity, not technical capacity seems to be the main constraint for replication of project activities and results without the support from UNDP or other funding agencies. Thus, a main challenge for UNDP should be to ensure that the approaches being introduced by the Programme in Karakalpakstan become national policy, preferably supported by budgetary funding for their implementation. Therefore, enhancing further partnership with national level partners are key for further replication and scaling up the Programme initiatives.

External factors:

- Severe climate and cotton harvesting season had some effect on the impact of interventions, especially in the case of setting up of agriculture demonstration plots. Therefore, the Programme has worked on more detailed plan of actions including schedules for trainings, field visits, capacity building activities and plans for the establishment of the demonstration plots, which significantly helped to foster the planned activities and overcome the indicated external factors.
- Procurement of some equipment for establishment of demonstration plots took some time, when the suppliers were delivering equipment from other countries. In order to solve this, the Programme works closely with the UNDP CO Procurement Unit to see for the LTAs available and possible suppliers lists from the databases in order to disseminate the bidding and tender announcements as wider as possible.

UNESCO: Some of the challenges faced, and reported on, during project implementation included:

External factors:

- Major faculties and buildings of Urgench State University, which is one of the key partners of the UNESCO, are currently being reconstructed. This caused some delays during the implementation of the scheduled activities. The following measures were taking in order to overcome the constraints including postponing of the purchase of office stationery and equipment for extension cabinet at Urgench University for the later period. Therefore, this year UNESCO plans to

purchase only compact and portable equipment such as laptop and digital cameras.

- Due to internal difficulties of the national partner the activities on the establishing the Visitor's Centre at the State Lower-Amudarya Biosphere Reserve was finished with delay. Therefore, the amendment was made to the contract with the national partner in order to complete the activity efficiently.

UNFPA: Some of the challenges faced, and reported on, during project implementation included:

Stakeholders, partners & implementing agencies:

- Sudden closure of two UNFPA partner NGOs at the end of 2013 has put under certain risk further implementation of young people related activities under Output 2.3. Therefore, in 2014 UNFPA will seek partnership with other national and local organizations to insure smooth implementation of the planned youth related activities. One of the potential partners is Women's Committee that successfully runs «Orasta Yoshlar» (Diligent Youth) initiative in cooperation with UNFPA. The initiative implies training of young peer educators in particular working in the area of adolescent reproductive health and tuberculosis prevention.

UNV: Some of the challenges faced, and reported on, during project implementation included:

Implementation:

- It took longer than expected to hire staff that has sufficient language knowledge, project implementation experience and is willing to work as UN Volunteers. The same applies to the identification of an International UN Volunteer that has sufficient qualification and is willing to work in the region and is approved by the funding member state. UN Volunteers (UNV) now has a full implementing team on the ground consisting of 2 National UN Volunteers and 1 International UN Volunteer funded by Finland.
- Many administrative and managerial matters had to be resolved before the implementation could commence. Those issues related to parallel funding and unclear reporting lines are being addressed by regular discussions with UNDP.
- The database of previous community volunteers had to be revisited. Many of the previous ones moved to work abroad or are unable to continue their work. New volunteers are being identified in cooperation with national partners.
- Importing needed medical equipment into the country is complicated due to registration and customs procedures. They require lengthy administrative process. Some vendors which otherwise offer good prices are reluctant to sell and ship

equipment because of those procedures as well as their internal rules different from UNDP's. In the end UNV had managed to procure the needed equipment, the process was just longer than expected. Therefore the Financial report shows a large portion of funds under commitments. The medical goods, which represent a majority of those funds, are expected to arrive at the end of January / beginning of February 2014. Payment will be processed as soon as the goods are released from customs. The remaining committed funds are mainly prepaid conference services for the TOT/community volunteers' trainings, and will be spent as the trainings proceed.

Stakeholders, partners and implementing agencies

- Despite the goodwill from the state institutions, procedures to obtain necessary permissions or approvals can be time consuming. Direct lines of communications were established with the national institutions in order to ensure flexible operating environment.
- There should be clearer arrangement of overall programme management and responsibilities of the managing staff. Procurement and travel plans for 2014 will be shared with all implementing agencies to improve procurement and monitoring efficiency.

External factors:

- Cotton season caused unavailability of key government partners and potential volunteers for several months and harsh winter conditions complicate travel to target districts as well as training possibilities. Therefore, UNV worked out more detailed planning to engage partners in the project implementation.

WHO: Some of the challenges faced, and reported on, during project implementation included:

Implementation:

- There has been observation on the lack of systemic approach to supervision and monitoring of "PAL strategy" implementation. The PAL Coordinators were not carrying sufficient amount of monitoring visits to oversee the status of the implementation strategy.
- There has been some difficulties in retaining staff in remote areas as Muynak, Kungrad, Kegeyly, Shumanay, Tahtakupir, and Karauzyak.
- High turnover rate of the trained staff in remote areas.
- Uneven improve registration system of respiratory patients.
- Lack of transport decrease accessibility of patients to drugs especially in winter time.
- Possible actions are suggested if implemented and sustained over time, could contribute to the necessary strengthening of the overall health system. The most important of them are: (i) Strengthening the implementation of a comprehensive Health Management Information System and produce a comprehensive Annual

Health Sector Performance report; (ii) Formulate and carry out, in close collaboration with the Ministry of Health, a regular programme support supervision from the central to the regional level and to hospital and SVP health units and (iii) Organize a National Health Workshop at the end of each round of supervisory visits with representatives of all Regional Health Directorates, the major development partners to discuss the technical and managerial problems identified during and their possible solutions.

Lessons learnt

Working with partners:

UNDP:

- It is critical that the Programme further works on advocating and documenting the results and linking the replication and scale up activities with the national priorities and through integration into the regional strategies. Therefore, enhancing further partnership with national level partners and working at national level towards the institutionalization of Programme activities will be of highest importance.
- It is important to facilitate the process of establishment the support services for maintenance of renewable energy sources in public buildings in the region, as there is lack of expertise and document knowledge in this area. Therefore, the Programme's cooperation with the relevant UNDP projects on this area and transferring knowledge in the area would be of great benefit for the region.
- It is crucial to continue applying various effective channels of communication to promote the human security approach, due to the prevailing lack of knowledge and understanding of this concept at all levels.

UNESCO:

- It is important to further strengthen the cooperation with national and foreign (international) partners to align UNESCO's efforts in Karakalpakstan and avoid overlaps.
- There is a need to create tourism infrastructures at selected archeological sites in Karakalpakstan, including tourist signs, improving roads, creating paths and developing tourist maps.

UNFPA:

- UNFPA combined trainings on entrepreneurial skills and promotion of gender equality with other trainings. Combining these two themes created a new platform for UNFPA to work in the area of women's empowerment. Cooperation of UNFPA with UNDP, Women's Committee and relevant financial institutions made this intervention very successful. Most of the training participants received micro-credits within the framework of UNDP run project on economic empowerment of women

and were able to establish small businesses in the rural areas. Enhancing women's economic participation contributed to increasing of living standards and overall empowerment of women. There are some anecdotal evidences that prove effectiveness of such combining these two important topics. However thorough evaluation of the impact is required after sufficient time would pass since the beginning of this initiative in order to assess effectiveness and replicability of this approach. At the same time this experience could serve as a good example of cooperation of UNFPA with different partners in the area of women's empowerment.

UNV:

- The need for translation documents to various languages can be addressed by outsourcing part of the translation needs to online volunteers. This path will be tested in the beginning of 2014 and if it turns out to be successful it can be used for other areas as well, such as design and creating a database of the volunteers.
- Procurement and travel plans for 2014 will be shared with all implementing agencies to improve procurement and monitoring efficiency.

WHO:

- It is crucial to keep health center staff informed on monitoring results.
- Staff turnover must be followed by carefully tended handover processes as personnel change positions.
- Monitoring must be severely integrated in PAL implementation, especially pay attention to registering and reporting patients with respiratory problems and using guideline during consultation.
- Regular visits of regional "PAL strategy" coordinator is necessary either it is difficult to maintain.
- The number of days of training should increase from 4 to 5 days. Some doctors and nurses have not yet been trained regarding DOTS program and they also need more training on MDR- TB.

Good Practice/Innovation

- Added value through brining multi-dimension approach to tackle the issues such as provision of finance to create a business, ensure capacity building to equip with necessary skills and ensure top down through development of necessary protection and replication mechanisms are crucial for successful sustainability and scale up of development initiatives.
- The Programme staff has managed to facilitate key cross-practice collaboration across the board of its activities, which helped to share knowledge and expertise, and attract additional resources that further helped to cover unaddressed area of human security in the region.

Application of human security concept

The UN Joint Programme has continued translating human security concept into effective and integrated field-based responses to emerging challenges. In particular, evidence-based empowerment of vulnerable rural population by supporting their business initiatives and reconstruction of 6 km long canal in Kazakhdarya community of Muynak district has enabled to expand their welfare and contributed in stepping forward towards achieving economic and food security.

Furthermore, from the perspective of a one-UN approach, the programme supports UNCT to “deliver as one” and ensures an integrated approach at the field level. It is greatly emphasized in promoting health security in the region, whereas UN agencies implementing a comprehensive approach that could simultaneously address infrastructure and equipment gaps as well as covers the capacity building activities of healthcare workers and community awareness on health issues. This multi-pronged strategy included: renovation of rural health facilities and provision with major equipment for diagnostics and treatment of respiratory diseases, installation of photovoltaic stations to 9 rural health facilities of Muynak district for continuous supply with electricity and improve access to primary healthcare services, providing specialized trainings to doctors and nurses, establishing community awareness mechanisms through promoting community based volunteerism and developing outreach programs and campaigns to bring together communities and Government healthcare institutions.

Moreover, effectively formulated community development plans and implemented community projects reflects people-centered approach and can form the basis for larger-scale social security strategies and mainstreaming them into district and regional development plans. The programme also organized series of training courses on human security concept for representatives of government and public institutions at district and regional level to wider disseminate the human security approach by employing people-centered, comprehensive, context-specific and preventive strategies while developing and implementing socio-economic policies. The given protection and empowerment framework aligns efforts both at regional and grassroots level to ensure that both actor-specific and collective actions reduce human, economic and social costs of such ecological disaster in a more efficient and effective way.

Project management

- It is crucial to keep continuous closer coordination of UN agencies on programme activities and further joint efforts on resources mobilization by means of holding regular multi-lateral meetings and facilitation of joint discussions of challenges and alterations.
- Increased ownership and participation should be maintained by ensuring continuous follow-up and coaching activities with beneficiaries, formulation of necessary strategic adjustments by organizing broad discussions on their needs and issues and encourage their inputs to achieve long-term deprivation and sustaining results.

Important findings from project evaluations conducted in the course of the year, highlighting major findings/recommendations. Also summarize actions taken/planned in response to the evaluation. Based on the Monitoring and Evaluation Plan, the relevant UNDP CO and programme staff continued carried out

monitoring functions on the ground. The plan of monitoring has been also worked out with the support of the UNDP CO Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist who has visited the Nukus office for monitoring purposes. The Programme is effectively monitored by assessing progress against the qualitative and quantitative indicators outlined in the results framework. The indicators were further refined during the initial stage of the programme. Regular monitoring visits by UNDP Programme focal points were made to assess the progress of the activities on ground. In particular, there have been 8 monitoring visits made by UNDP programme focal points and UNDP Administration to foster the programme activities. Each agency is still performing its own monitoring and evaluation relative to its activities. The Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist periodically conducts the monitoring activities in the field and 10 monitoring visits were conducted to the communities and demonstration plots and necessary recommendations made to the relevant Programme staff. Based on the recommendations more capacity building activities were carried for the beneficiaries. The Joint Programme has also initiated the mid-term evaluation of the Programme and recruited international and national experts who are conducting the evaluation of the programme activities in January 2014 and the report with recommendations and findings should be available by the end of February 2014. The Programme plans to work out on the findings further and adjust activities as appropriate to increase the effectiveness and efficiency of the programme implementation and results.

- **Any actions taken or planned in response to the recommendations of project evaluations: Not available.**
- **Percentage of budgeted funds actually spent:**
 - For UNDP activities: 77% (UNTFHS 83%, TRAC 42%)
 - For UNESCO activities: 50 %

Reasons for delay in delivery for UNESCO: As it has been indicated in the issues part of this report, reasons for delivery delay in UNESCO activities were linked to the following (i) major faculties and buildings of Urgench State University, which is one of the key partners of the UNESCO, have gone reconstruction work last year. This caused some delays during the implementation of the scheduled activities. Therefore, some of procurements such as purchase of office stationery and equipment for extension cabinet at Urgench University were postponed; (ii) some of the works related to the Djambas kala was delayed due to the fact that construction company delayed its work in the field in terms of establishing the yurt camp due to the severe weather conditions; and (iii) some of the planned trainings has been postponed to spring time because it would be more efficient for KRASS members to conduct trainings in the beginning of planting season of the suggested crops. However, those activities are now in the process of addressing. In fact these delays have no impact in terms of ensuring and keeping up the comprehensive and integrated manner of the Programme implementation.

- For UNFPA activities: 91%
- For WHO activities: 90.0%

- For UNV activities: 59%

Reasons for delay in delivery for UNV: The main reason for the delay in the UNV planned activities was the amount of time it took to deploy a UNV team that would consist of fully qualified and professional staff. Another factor are the lengthy procedures of the country to customs clear imported equipment, obtain all necessary permissions and approvals for any action taken. Also the services suppliers in the country often do not honor the goods and services delivery deadlines stated in the contracts. Long cotton harvest season and harsh winter conditions also limit the full working capacity of the project. Even though there was a delay in commencing the project implementation, the project staff managed to catch up and we expect to deliver in full within the 2014. Already in January and February number of important activities was conducted as indicated in the activity 2.2.1.

Impact of key partnerships and inter-agency collaboration to foster human security approach and value adding. Use of Multi-agency UN approach and working as one and in tandem are ensuring to achieve results that have long lasting impact for the target population of the region which face multidimensional nature of the challenges. For instance, inter-agency collaboration is making it possible to involve all major stakeholders in the planning, consultation, selection and management of initiatives prioritized at the local level. Each participating agency in the Programme brings concrete technical expertise that is being crucial to develop and launch technically sound and evidence based responses to human security challenges in Karakalpakstan. All those mutual activities are greatly contributing to adding on value to individual interventions in the region in the process of project implementation. Therefore, significant progress is being accomplished to the benefit of the local population. The fact that government at all levels and donors realize the complexity of challenges to human security faced by the people of Karakalpakstan, makes it possible to agree on common solutions and enhance the synergy and define actions that are well coordinated. In fact this approach also helps to attract other donors and partners to apply similar approach of work as well as mobilizing funding for more synergized interventions for the benefit of the local population and its sustainable development. In addition, the Programme continuous giving high importance to the valuable experiences of other donors, active in the area of local economic development and local governance. Therefore, the Programme has facilitated wide-range collaboration with various partners. Such partnerships were built on mutual exchange of training programmes, sharing experiences, lessons learned and the progress of ongoing activities, particularly:

- The Programme has been actively collaborating with UN Women. Within this initiative the Programme were able to obtain additional funds from UNDP TRAC for the amount of USD 50,000 to improve the economic and food security of women, within the frame of cooperation with UN WOMEN and Women Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan. The Programme has supported the creation of the additional income generation sources in livestock development for 21 rural women from low income families and women, who have suffered from TB disease in the past. Those initiatives have greatly contributed to ensure

economic and food security of the vulnerable rural inhabitants with special focus to women. For 2014, in order to further foster the cooperation with the UNWOMEN, additional USD 20,000 were allocated from the UNDP TRAC funds and meanwhile in consultation with UNWOMEN, the Programme plans to target those funds to the Muynak district through supporting additional 4-5 household level business initiatives for rural women. Currently, the UNWOMEN has also conducted capacity building trainings for the rural women of Muynak district out of whom the Programme will select and fund the income generation projects.

- Within the effort to promote improved agricultural practices and ensure new income generation opportunities, the Programme continuous cooperation with the Israel Agency for International Development Cooperation (MASHAV), based on MOU signed between parties. In 2013, the preparation works has been conducted for the further capacity building trainings and in 2014, it is also envisioned to conduct capacity building trainings for the extension agents through invitation of MASHAV specialists on following subjects: (i) "Management of Water Resources and Plant Protection" with preliminary dates February, 11-13, and (ii) on "Greenhouse Management and Vegetable Growing" in May 2014. For this purpose, the Programme was able to receive USD 10,000 from the UNDP TRAC funds in order to cover expenses for the above indicated two 3 days trainings. During February 17-19, the first training has been conducted. The MASHAV has covered all expenses of the two International Experts who came from Israel to conduct those trainings including their fees, international travel expenses, training modules that were developed based on the demand of the Programme, while the Programme has covered the expenses for conducting the training.
- Additional USD 100,000 was allocated by the UNDP TRAC in 2013 in order to foster the partnership with Gene Fund to ensure coordination and institutional framework for resource mobilization and effective use of financial and technical support for sustainable development of the Aral Sea Region that is implemented by the Aral Gene Pool Fund.
- The Programme initiated collaboration with UK Embassy in Uzbekistan. In particular, the Programme staff assisted to the staff of the UK Embassy visit to Karakalpakstan in September 2013. It is envisioned to conduct seminars/round tables with the participation of a lecturer/ consultant from the UK for the target audience of the UN Joint Programme in 2014. Through involvement of UK Embassy to organize training courses for specialists from programme target districts on "Waste management" and "Provision of consultation services to business and social entities". Preliminary date is March and May 2014. The consultations are taking place with the Embassy on this matter.
- The Programme initiated cooperation with the JICA to support the women's empowerment through supporting the local women leaders participation in the exchange programmes in Japan. With this activity, support were provided to the

head of the Economic Department of the Muynak district Hokymiat (Ms. Zulfia Turdimuratova) to participate in the study tour in Japan on the subject of “Local Economic Development’. In 2014, the Programme plans to assist the Muynak district Hokiyment to develop a grant proposal for consideration of the JICA for funding initiative of creation the recreational zone for children in Muynak town center park.

- By integrating formulation of Community Development Plans at grassroots level, the Programme has initiated several CDP lobbying workshops with representatives of district government office and sectorial departments of social and economic sectors. During these workshops and follow up meetings, the Programme presented social priority projects in target communities which have been reflected in CDP documents and discussed the possibilities of including to district development plans and allocation of additional funds from government budget. This initiative is fairly welcomed by local government representatives and several social priority projects have been included to various government development programs.

- In particular, in Kanlikul district the Karakalpakstan Water Supply Institution have allocated UZS (Uzbek sums) 120 000 000 (USD 54,471) for construction of pump station and UZS 177 000 000 (USD 80,345) for reconstruction of 2500 meters of water pipelines in Mayjap community of VCC Janadarya. At the moment, pump station construction process completed and water pipelines will be installed throughout 2014. Besides, this institution included for its 2014 plan installation of water pipeline with 12 000 m length in VCC Jayhun and 3000 m length in Mahalla Committee # 3 in district center. Regarding the social facilities, the Council of Ministers of Karakalpakstan have adopted its regional plan for 2014-2015, where for Kanlikul district they have allocated UZS 364 000 000 for reconstruction of kindergarten # 1 in VCC Kosjap, construction of additional block to secondary school # 3 in VCC Kanlikul with allocated budget of UZS 891 000 000 (USD 404448) and UZS 70 000 000 (USD 31775) for reconstruction of rural health facility in VCC Arzimbetkul.

- In Moinak district, through national development plan of Cabinet of Ministers of Uzbekistan, the local government have succeeded the allocation of funds amounted UZS 228 000 000 (USD 103495) for reconstruction of Water Purification Station “ECOS” and installation of water pipeline with 2000 m length. District Development Plan covers reconstruction of 2000 m length asphalted road in Doslik community of VCC Khakim ata and Mahalla Committee # 2 in district center. Besides, the district administration have been able to attract funds from International Fund “EcoSan” for procurement of power transformer station with 75 KW capacity with approximate price of UZS 34 000 000 (USD 15434) for improving the quality of electrification in Tikozeq community and 2 pump stations with similar amount for enhancing the capacity of Central Water Distribution Facility.

- In Shumanay district, thanks to continuous efforts of district administration, the Water Supply Institution have allocated UZS 230 000 000 (USD 104403) for reconstruction of Water Distribution Facilities in VCC Sarmanbaykol and MCC Aybuyir, where it's planned to renovate the facility buildings, replace several pump stations and water pipelines thus improving the water supply system of around 8 of our target communities. Besides, under the project of Asian Development Bank, it is also envisioned to implement the reconstruction of pump station "Kanlikul", new construction of pump station buildings and installation of pumps in Birleshik, Begjap and Mamiy Water Distribution Facilities, construction of water magisterial "Kanlikul-Diykhanabad", construction and replacement of water pipelines (new construction – 10.8 km, replacement – 23.3 km) in district center.

The above-mentioned activities and allocated funds from government side once again emphasizes the importance of CDP implementation by applying both bottom-up empowerment and top-down protection measures which enables practical application of human security concept and improves the socio-economic condition of target population. The Programme believes that through above approaches of CDP development and making sure that voices of the remotely located people are heard by local and regional government will give great results for the prosperity of the target population, as above success projects prove. The Programme further plans to work on advocating on the importance of the CDPs as an instrumental tool to bring communities closer to the government in order to resolve the issues the community people face.

- By working as one under the Human Security approach UN agencies have advantage to address an area of unfulfilled challenges to Human Security. As part of WHO program there has been an implementation of PAL strategy, which aims to improve the passive detection of TB among patients with prolonged cough. Due to little awareness on TB and other respiratory diseases and stigma, population does not appeal to health institutions timely. Therefore, UNV is undertaking trainings on improving the public awareness about TB prevention, infections related to ecological disaster, and other lung diseases, integrated in PAL strategy, among the public. This mechanism of work between WHO and UNV is adding value to more effective implementation of the PAL strategy and timely attendance of the patients to get necessary treatment.
- The fact that WHO and UNFPA launched their activities earlier served as a great ground to accelerate the UNV activities implementation. Therefore, this process impacted that notwithstanding the delays in the launch of the UNV activities, the functioning environment were set up to quickly catch up on the plans thanks to mutual work of the WHO, UNFPA and UNV. For instance, for implementation of the UNV activities some of WHO headed core trainers (PAL strategy trainers) and UNFPA (Y- Peers) were involved. It is also planned to use Y-Peer's interactive teaching skills at colleges and schools of target districts to promote the UNV activities. Despite the overall coverage of the information on TB at UNFPA training curricula, the participation at the UNV TOT trainings has enabled Y-Peers to enhance their knowledge on TB prevention and disseminate them to youngsters with strong confidence and competence. Different age, occupation

and teaching methods were presented to create the certain conditions for participants highlighting the strength in unity and that we can all work together for the sake and wellbeing of the people. Besides, in close collaboration with WHO PAL trainers, UNV team developed training modules and conducted four Trainings of Trainers (TOTs), where 85 volunteers from target districts have been trained. The UNV team integrated some information regarding the medical issues from the PAL strategy manual in developing the flip album for volunteer trainers and calendars for general public containing messages on the TB and lung diseases prevention.

- Procurement of peak flow meters and spirometers by UNV has become a mechanism for strengthening the effectiveness of the WHO program in increasing people's access to quality diagnostics, clinical management of the assigned standard treatment for other chronic diseases and from UNV intervention perspective to raise the number of people's referral with prolonged cough to primary healthcare institutions. Another example of synergy and sustainability is seen in baseline survey on assessment of knowledge regarding TB and other respiratory diseases among general population from target and control districts (organized by UNV component). WHO PAL trainers have been joined to UNV Working Group both as leading experts on lung health and Ministry of Health key player representatives in decision making. This study has shown a full picture of situation in the region for experts, reflecting the reasons why people do not always seek early treatment, where and to whom they turn for advice and the behavior of people in appearance of a prolonged cough.
- Collaboration with "Medicins San Frontiers" aims at mutual reinforcing actions to control TB. The application of MSF lead research with indication of key facts that women aged 25-39 are more susceptible for TB have enabled the Programme to establish efficient partnership strategies with Women Committee and Fund "Mahalla" serving as an impetus for greater involvement of youth in volunteer activities. The areas of cooperation with MSF also included the process on development of curriculum and training materials. MSF works on treatment of detected TB cases, while UNV and WHO efforts are aimed at strengthening the timely referral to health institutions, ensuring early detection and treatment of TB as well as patients with other pulmonary pathology. Also under cooperation framework, MSF is providing its support to identify former TB patients who have lost their jobs and are unable to earn a living to address their needs through UN JP income generation component.

Sustainability, scaling up and replication aspects of UN Joint Programme

- Value added mechanism of delivery has been demonstrated by integrating the activities of all three components and maintains sustainability of Programme achievements towards addressing the insecurities faced by vulnerable communities. Namely, under the implementation of social infrastructure projects, procurement and installation of water pumps provides access to irrigation water and enables sustainable development of income generation activities by producing agricultural products and fostering food security. Installation of power transformer stations will enhance the production volume of industrialized business enterprises in target communities. Water supply projects give a huge

impact to improved health status of rural population. Community projects on renovation of rural health facilities and health component educational activities on enhancing the capacity of healthcare workers and health education activities amongst population will provide a holistic approach to render quality healthcare services and increases community awareness.

- Another value added mechanism of UN Joint Programme has created a cooperative relationship between UN agencies. The Programme applied a holistic human security approach and made multidisciplinary solutions to complex challenges. In particular, UNESCO have involved agriculture consulting center “KRASS” and strengthened agricultural production by the development of new land use techniques and the introduction of new agricultural products. It also enabled to establish network of 50 extension agents who have facilitated to transfer of knowledge products on new agricultural technologies amongst local farmers. On its turn, UNFPA conducted trainings on business development have had positive implications to women’s economic empowerment and increased the number established business projects led by rural women. Knowledge products of UNV and WHO on TB prevention have been successfully utilized in analyzing health benefits of proposed business projects on establishment of milk processing point, also playing a key role in identification of target beneficiaries for livestock development social projects for women suffered from TB, which has been initiated by UN Women and Women’s Committee of Uzbekistan.
- Introduction of community planning mechanism is fairly welcomed by local government representatives. Based on formulated CDPs, the local government representatives including social priority projects reflected in CDP into their regional and local development plans and allocating funds from state budget.
- The Programme is supporting the Ministry of Economy of Karakalpakstan in establishing a regional database. The regional government has established a working group by involving the Ministries of Economy, Health, Agriculture and Water Resources, responsible for development and management of database. The established database will help Ministry of Economy of Karakalpakstan as well as other ministries to apply the available information in policy level decision making and monitoring of the implementation of regional strategic development programmes.
- As a result of numerous discussions UN JP Management with key partners at national level, the Socio-Economic Development Strategy of the Republic of Karakalpakstan has been developed. It plays a key role in sustainable development of the Republic of Karakalpakstan at policy making and implementation of demand-driven development programs as well as choosing right directions in attracting donor agencies.

- UNV is also working on motivating volunteers and creating mechanisms to include the concept of community volunteerism into the national health care policy. The UNV is currently piloting a new concept and hiring part time volunteers from the local administration structures. A small amount of personal money allowance will ensure that they can keep on active volunteering and allow them to keep their daily job plus offer further training and capacity development. Once the 1500 volunteers are trained, UNV will assist the Ministry of Health to institutionalize volunteering by creating a database of volunteers for later use. The network can be used in the future to raise awareness of other health related issues. UNV will work with the Medical Institute and other educational institutions to include community volunteering in the curricula of the universities (medical school, social worker specialization). The UNV will also monitor the volunteer trainings in the rural areas and conduct a survey towards the end of project implementation period that will measure the achievements. The indicators tackling the general awareness of tuberculosis or awareness of multi-drug resistant tuberculosis were set in the survey done by the UNV in 2013.
- Five organizations in Karakalpakstan (the Ministry of Health, Association of Nurses, Women's Committee, Fund "Mahalla" and Karakalpakstan Branch of Tashkent Pediatric Medical Institute) are involved to collaboratively implement the concept developed on institutionalization of volunteering. The main idea of this collaboration is to establish a linkage between governmental and nongovernmental organizations which are responsible for improving medical culture of population and ensure the sustainability of ongoing changes. It is believed that integration of existing structures to ensure the further functioning and coordination of volunteer network will serve as a mechanism to improve healthy lifestyles of society and contribute to development, harmonization of relations between government and civil society, enhance the upgrading and systematization of public health sector in the region.
- To ensure further sustainability of the activities under the Health Component, the Programme is expanding the involvement of youngsters, in particular students of educational institutions in Nukus city for awareness raising activities on health topics. The Programme is at the stage of presenting a training programme "Educating General Public on Health Topics" which will be integrated into the syllabus of the Valeology Courses within the curricula of the Medical Institute in Karakalpakstan. Upon approval, the students of the Medical Institute will be trained on volunteering program during their academic and professional internship. In clinical spectrum, the Department of Postgraduate Training of General Practitioners has been assigned to design and implement projects on enhancing the quality of case management in regard to patients with pulmonary pathology. By integrating the efforts of UNV and WHO, this institutionalization initiative will create sustainable grounds both for implementation of community awareness amongst general public and clinical patient management at health facilities level thus fostering health security in the region.

- **Impact of project on women, girls, boys and men respectively (please provide gender and age disaggregated data)**

The UN JP has conducted capacity building trainings on Human Security Concept, Results-Based Management, Gender Statistics and Sustainable Development for 83 (including 44 female, 53%) government representatives to further enhance the capacity of the government representatives on the techniques and tools to ensure more informed decision-making based on gender disaggregated data analysis. Targeted for empowering communities at grass-root levels, 46 workshops conducted involving more than 732 people in 3 target districts including 355 women (49%) on MDGs localization and Community Mobilization. As a result, 44 Community Development Plans (CDPs) were finalized that has disaggregated data for respective communities which incorporate the needs of women, girls and youth. Based on those CDPs developed, and capacity building activities, 22 community social infrastructure projects are in process of implementation, which aim to improve access to quality drinking and irrigation water, electricity, health and educational facilities for 31 communities benefiting more than 34,242 local inhabitants, out of which 17589 (51%) are female. Currently, 14 community projects were fully completed, 8 are in the process of implementation. Under the Income generation component, out of 63 business projects - 33 projects (53%) are initiated by women. It is envisioned that those projects will create around 98 workplaces out of which estimated that 48% will be for women. The UN JP has fostered cooperation with UN WOMEN and Women Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan, and supported creation additional income generation sources in livestock development for 21 rural women from low income families and women, who have suffered from TB disease in the past.

Under the health component, where WHO, UNV and UNFPA work as one to address specific women's rights on the issues such as reproductive health, family planning, addressing the issues related to stigma and discrimination for the people infected by Tuberculosis, etc. This is done through capacity building trainings provided to the local doctors, nurses and other specialists in order to ensure provision of effective support at the community and district levels. In overall, 820 participants benefited from those capacity building activities out of which 475 (57%) are female. Under the UNV portfolio of UN JP, baseline survey has been conducted in order to identify the awareness level of the local population about the TB and other respiratory disease. The survey covered 1,088 (out of which 55% were females) respondents from 80 Village Community of Citizens of 7 districts of Karakalpakstan. The findings of the survey has been used in developed the training materials to be used for the preparation of the 1500 community volunteers in 2014.

	Description of activities	Total number of participants/beneficiaries	Men	Women
Component 1: Income generation				
1.	Trained dekhkan farmers on sustainable management of natural resources and bee farming	62	51	11
2.	Registered entities as	16	4	12

	dekhkan farms			
3.	Dekhkan farmers and entrepreneurs with supported business projects on agriculture, small production and service provision development	63	30	33
4.	New jobs created	98	42	56
Component 2: Primary healthcare				
1.	“PAL strategy” doctors	51	19	32
2.	“PAL strategy” nurses	44	2	42
3.	UNFPA: “Medical Eligibility Criteria for Contraceptive Use”	125	13	112
4.	UNFPA: Training and counseling on family planning, and legal and economic support	400	40	160
5.	UNFPA: ToTs on HIV/AIDS/TB Prevention and SRH service issues among youth as Peer-Educators	200	71	129
Component 3: Access to Services and Governance				
#	Description of activities	Total number of participants/beneficiaries	Men	Women
1.	Training on Human Security Concept, Results-Based Management, Gender Statistics and Sustainable Development for medium level government representatives	83	39	44
2.	CDP and Project Proposal Design workshops for community people	732	377	355
3.	Community people benefited from social infrastructure projects	34262	16653	17589

- Other highlights and crosscutting issues, as applicable

Section IV: Forthcoming annual work-plan

The UN Joint Programme will continue with the implementation of the agreed work plan for Year 3. All unspent budget will be allocated to Year 3 to cover the initially approved activities. The workplan will be based on the original work plan for the programme that is indicated in the original project document. The activities to be carried by WHO, UNFPA, UNESCO and UNV follow the work plan for 2012-2015.

Section V: Resources and financial implementation: The financial reports of implementing UN agencies submitted and where required will be submitted directly by the UN Agencies as appropriate. UNFPA has submitted its interim financial report which is also being sent with this progress report. UNDP has submitted its financial report on December 4, 2013.

Section VI: Promotional activities

The Joint Programme has continued to implement the comprehensive communication strategy that was launched in 2012 and which was centered around the promotion of human security approach, and consists the deployment a mix of various channels of communication, including print media, television, social media platforms and blogging, targeting relevant groups, such as public sector, beneficiaries, international community/donors, and civil society:

- **Public Sector/Government:**

- Regular communication is maintained by the means of publications in local newspapers, news stories on television, and importantly, quarterly E-Newsletters, which are shared regularly with the representatives of local government authorities. There have been 4 releases of quarterly newsletters published on social network and disseminated through emails in 2013. To access the newsletters, please follow the below links:
- Spring'2013:<https://docs.unocha.org/sites/dms/HSU/Outreach/Uzbekistan/084/E%60Newsletter1%6013.pdf>
- Summer'2013:<http://us7.campaign-archive2.com/?u=8fdb8f273f377ff74a5eeb2c8&id=dec372b658>
- Fall'2013:<http://us7.campaign-archive1.com/?u=8fdb8f273f377ff74a5eeb2c8&id=ee331cc8d7>
- Winter'2013:
<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.576686105757414.1073741857.318537724905588&type=1&l=41585be057>

- **Beneficiaries:**

- **Newspaper rubric:** In order to ensure the awareness of the beneficiaries of the Joint Programme activities and promote human security concept, the Joint Programme continued cooperation with the two top newspapers in Karakalpakstan – Erkin Karakalpakstan and Vesti Karakalpakstana based on the signed MOU, and ensured releasing a regular newspaper rubric dedicated to the activities of the Programme. There have been released newspaper rubrics focusing on Human Security Concept and capacity building trainings, as well as programme achievements within the three components of the Programme which included the results and importance of income generation projects in ensuring the economic and food security of the target population, impact of the capacity building activities in the healthcare sector and in December 28, the final rubric for 2013, which covered significant activities and results achieved during the 2013 with the focus to further

advocate the human security approach in development. Apart from that there were 13 news stories and articles released in the above newspapers during the reporting period (including 4 during February 2014) highlighting the activities of the Programme such as the work of the components of the project, seminar on tourism and development of the volunteer movement. In addition, in order to ensure transparency and accountability of the Programme activities announcements for biddings and tenders for procurement and implementation of the community infrastructure projects were also announced in the regional newspapers. In December, the short information brief about programme with the further invitation to take part in the programme activities on establishment of demonstration plots were also announced at the district level newspapers to ensure that more vulnerable and unsecured families actively participate in those opportunities.

- **Videos:** The Joint Program released a video on the achievements of the project for 2012-2013. On Youtube channel about 100 people have watched the video for 2 (two) days and received many positive comments on other social networks. Video is available on the following link: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iNIY08p2xaA>

- **Television:** Since television is considered as one of the most impactful tools in communicating with the local beneficiaries, the Joint Programme has furthered collaboration with Karakalpak national TV channel, and during the reporting period there have been 19 news stories (including 4 during January and February 2014) broadcasted in Karakalpak and Russian languages highlighting various activities of the Joint Programme. To access some of the recordings please visit the following links:
 - http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y3ixkwcEp_0
 - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DUxNKf-9Svw>
 - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BOzkC3Ma42Q>
 - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HgXokRJNCFw>
 - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gfGTSeAVFyQ>
 - http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kZ_nbrozW5E
 - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I-X9v29F1HQ>
 - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HDQmZPHr5ec>
 - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pKQoxddtE7M>
 - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jehlzkQ1DS8>
 - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dDEgyY-5Xto>
 - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pykaL4HJ-OI>

- **Posters:** In addition to the 3 designs of posters in 2012, 6 e-posters produced, highlighting the major themes of the Programme, and one of them was centered around water and human security issues. The posters were produced in Karakalpak language, and disseminated widely across major beneficiaries, including local NGOs, partners, government authorities, universities, schools, etc.

E-posters were posted on our Facebook page. Click on the following links to view the e-Posters:

- <https://www.facebook.com/UNAralSeaProgramme?ref=hl>
- <https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=567320273360664&set=a.325770047515689.76879.318537724905588&type=1&theater>
- <https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=577128275713197&set=a.325770047515689.76879.318537724905588&type=1&theater>
- <https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=583149011777790&set=a.325770047515689.76879.318537724905588&type=1&theater>
- <https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=584437511648940&set=a.325770047515689.76879.318537724905588&type=1&theater>

- **Disks:** Considering that the CD and DVD is an economical and useful tool and nowadays they are used as a presentation, business cards, and knowledge sharing . The Joint Programme has developed the collection of the UN JP promotional materials in the Disk format for the dissemination among the partners and stakeholders in order further share information about the human security concept and its application.

- **International community/Donors:**

- **AKVO platform:** Following to the Joint Programme profile launched on AKVO really Simple Reporting platform in 2012, the Programme continued featuring all the latest news updates from the Programme, photos and videos. The updates are disseminated regularly across partners, international community, and UN agencies in Uzbekistan. To access the AKVO profile please follow the link: <http://www.akvo.org/rsr/project/525/>
- **UN Teamworks:** Programme user space was created on UN Teamworks and features latest updates from the Joint Programme, as well as pictures, publications and blog posts. Number of blog posts was published on UN Teamworks, highlighting various issues the Joint Programme is working on, including human security.
- **UNDP's Europe and CIS regional website:** 4 blogs were made public on UNDP's Voices from Eurasia blog, highlighting the various themes, such as human security, water scarcity and women empowerment. To access the blogs follow the below links:
 - "Rebuilding kindergartens in the devastated Aral Sea region" - <http://europeandcis.undp.org/blog/2013/04/11/rebuilding-kindergartens-in-the-devastated-aral-sea-region/>
 - "Bringing water – saving technologies to the Aral Sea region!" - <http://europeandcis.undp.org/blog/2013/07/22/bringing-water-saving-technologies-to-the-aral-sea-region/>
 - "Empowering communities in the Aral Sea disaster area" - <http://europeandcis.undp.org/blog/2013/08/23/empowering-communities-in-the-aral-sea-disaster-area/>

- “The fate of farmers in the Lower Amu-Darya State Biosphere Reserve” - <http://europeandcis.undp.org/blog/2013/08/28/the-fate-of-farmers-in-the-lower-amu-darya-state-biosphere-reserve/>
- **Social media:** Joint Programme is actively promoted through various social media engines, including Facebook (<http://www.facebook.com/UNAralSeaProgramme>), where it has about 12 followers with the weekly reach of 3100. The Programme is also promoted on Twitter, YouTube, and Flickr.
- **Civil Society:** The Joint Programme continues to actively target the local civil society in Karakalpakstan, and fruitfully collaborates and engages the local partners in its events. A mix of the above tools is used to maintain communication with the partners, including E-Newsletter, newspaper rubric, and social media.

In summary, the Programme’s goal to improve economic, food, health, and environmental security and provide access to basic social infrastructure, represent a key message of all communication materials. It is crucial to keep raising awareness of partners about the human security concept, therefore more future event and publications are planned that will be centered around promoting human security and engaging more people in a dialogue on the insecurities people of Aral Sea region face.