



Faces of Project

Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.

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About us

Dear colleagues,

UNDP "Inclusive Employment & Social Partnership" (IESP) Project Team is pleased to present the first issue of a newsletter "Faces of the Project."

How is the project achieving its objectives? What are the implications of its activities?

On the pages of the newsletter, beneficiaries are discussing the news and accomplishments of the project.

We believe, that faces of our project are faces of our beneficiaries — the people changing the world.

"IESP" is a joint project of UNDP and the Ministry of Labor and Social Protection of Population of the Republic of Uzbekistan (MSLPP). The project is being realized between 2011 - 2014 in Djizak, Samarkand, Kashkadarya, Bukhara regions and Tashkent city.

The goal of the project is to provide access for Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) to decision making in employment and social protection programmes. Furthermore, it also aims to promote CSOs' access to state financial and administrative resources for implementation of their social projects.

Disabled persons and vulnerable layers of society such as women with disabilities are the main project beneficiaries.

The project capitalizes on the previous successful initiative of UNDP and the Ministry, "ACCESS: Accessibility, Civic Consciousness, Employment and Social Support for persons with disabilities" that ran from 2008 to 2011 in pilot cities of Tashkent, Samarkand and Shakhrisabz, to promote the rights of persons with disabilities.

Starting the education year 2011–2012, 5000 students with disabilities receive professional education, 45 percent of them are females



Alexandra Plotnikova, first year student with disability

I remember the difficulties while studying in college, I couldn't move freely on the stairs with my wheelchair. UNDP/MSLPP through the ACCESS project helped me to solve the issue.

I am grateful to them for their assistance. Last year my dream came true, I became a student of Department of Psychology at the Moscow State University in Tashkent. I got high scores in entrance exams and received a university scholarship. That was the first and very important step in my life goal, to be a psychologist.

I like the theater and perform at "Lik," the theater studio. I am also involved in social work. I am a member of the Youth Initiative Group.

Now we are working on a photo gallery, where we will exhibit faces of people who are leading an active social life and achieved considerable results, despite being disabled.

I really appreciate the IESP's assistance in organizing the photo gallery.

By exhibiting photos that display the disabled persons, I really want the children with disabilities to start believing in themselves and realize that

everything in their own hands, so they can change their lives for the better.

I also want the photo gallery to serve as a lifelong motivation.

The student life of Alexandra Plotnikova



Professionals received 4,000 copies of two publications on the rights of persons with disabilities and provision of accessibility



Nazima Suleymanova, Deputy Head of Department of Labor Protection at the Ministry of Labor and Social Protection of Population

I hold two publications; “Equal rights – equal opportunities” and “Basics of providing accessibility for persons with disabilities and low mobility population groups” prepared by the UNDP/MLSPP project.

To be honest, I have not seen such high quality publications in this field in terms of content, accessible language and without complex and specialized terminology. We started distributing the publications in August, 2011.

The Q&A manual on the rights of persons with disabilities describes steps on access to services (education, health, employment, social protection) and exercising their rights. All answers are given by the leading specialists working in the field.

For many years, I have given lectures to professionals working in the social sphere orga-

nized at the Center for Advanced Studies of the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Uzbekistan and the Federation of Trade Unions. When I handed out the manual on accessibility, listeners were surprised that in addition to the required detailed information, the manual contained illustrations which cover all the type of buildings and constructions that should be accessible for the disabled persons. They comprise not only the ramps but also all devices and facilities in public places.

I think these books will become hand manuals for specialists, who are responsible for the accessibility of buildings and constructions .

The electronic versions of the publications are available at – www.undp.uz/publications



Publications “Equal rights-equal opportunities” and “Basics of providing accessibility for persons with disabilities and low mobility population groups”

On September 29, 40 representatives of NGOs of Uzbekistan attend round table “The role of civil society institutes in inclusive employment and social partnership” in Tashkent



Dildora Jiyranova (on the right side), deputy chairperson of Civil Initiative Support Centre of Uzbekistan

I really appreciate UNDP’s assistance in involving civil society organizations in employment support and social protection of population.

About 40 representatives of NGOs that assist the disabled and socially handicapped women attended this round table.

In their presentations, the participants noted active process of building a civil society in Uzbekistan. Particularly, they highlighted the role of the Concept in further deepening of democratic reforms and the formation of the civil society in the country.

As follow up actions to the round table I propose to create a working group to exchange experiences, to carry out joint activities and to disseminate information about employment and social protection issues.

We do really need a mechanism for involvement of CSOs to develop social partnership in promotion of employment.



Round table discussions

178 new jobs created in five UNDP /MLSP supported social enterprises , such as Solution Universal, Social education and production enterprise for deaf persons № 1, “Yourkinlik ko`rki” (Tashkent), “Shakhrisabs craft” (Shakhrisabz), “Top man shoes” (Samarkand)



Ayzada Nurumbetova (at the center), director of Women’s social support centre “Keul Nuri” in Nukus.

Its pleasure to state that we are not only reviving Karakalpak traditional costumes, but also providing jobs to women who are in particular need for support.

25 women work in the enterprise. 156 women – victims of domestic violence and trafficking went through trainings, 600 women received various consultations.

National dresses are on high demand among young girls. Local women showing great interest in traditional costumes, that also contributes to the revival of National traditions.

Women purchase the traditional costumes, based on ancient traditions and made using modern technology.



Social Enterprise “Keul Nuri” in Nukus

I am pleased to say that today our social enterprise is involved in the revival of Karakalpak national clothing, such as ancient wedding dresses.



Success of our products serves as a basis for the further development of our social enterprise.



UNDP/MSLPP supported Social enterprise “Yorkinlik ko`rki” received state procurement contract



Feruza Vasiqova, Head of Yunusabad Branch of the Society of Disabled Persons

Our Social enterprise functions within the Society of Disabled Persons in Yunusabad district of Tashkent city. It received a large state procurement contract to

produce 10 000 aprons for the cotton harvesting season in 2011. This order opens new perspectives for expansion of production and employment of more persons with disabilities.

Initially our organization depended on donations only. Then we participated at UNDP training “Start your business” and with new knowledge and skills we won a contest “The best idea for developing a social enterprise”. As the winner, we received technical equipment from the UNDP and opened small social enterprise.

Today we earn and cover our

own expenses .

20 persons with various disabilities are employed in the enterprise. Only in 18 days, we were able to produce 10 000 aprons, and now we have another state contract to produce gloves for the oil and gas industry.

Since 1997 I has been engaged in support and training of disabled women, children, youth and seniors to ensure their employment and to provide material and psychological support. Today the Society of Disabled of Yunusabad district unites 1012 persons with disabilities.



Social Enterprise “Yorkinlik k`orki”