

**THE WORLD BANK EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA**

**Regional Gender Knowledge Forum**

**Project Overview**

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*Congratulations to the 2014 winners!*

**KAZAKHSTAN**

“BOLASHAK” SOCIAL & CIVIL BASIS  
KAZAKHSTAN FAMILY BUSINESS ASSOCIATION  
WOMEN’S LEADERSHIP FUND  
KAZAKH HUMANITARIAN LAW INNOVATION UNIVERSITY

**KYRGYZ REPUBLIC**

INNOVATIVE SOLUTION INC  
OPEN LINE  
WOMEN SUPPORT CENTER

**MOLDOVA**

“CHEIA SCHIMBARILOR” (KEY OF CHANGE)  
INTERNATIONAL CENTER FOR WOMEN RIGHTS PROTECTION AND PROMOTION CENTER “LA STRADA”

**TAJIKISTAN**

LONELY WOMEN SUPPORT CENTER “NURI UMED”  
LEAGUE OF WOMEN LAWYERS  
CHASHMAI HAYOT  
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES OF TAJIKISTAN  
COMMITTEE OF WOMEN’S AFFAIRS

**TURKMENISTAN**

YENME

**UZBEKISTAN**

BEKTEMIR BRANCH OF TASHKENT SOCIETY OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES  
THE CENTER OF CIVIC INITIATIVES SUPPORT  
WOMEN’S COMMITTEE OF UZBEKISTAN

## Kazakhstan

### *“Bolashak” Social & Civil Basis*

**Country:** Kazakhstan

**Project title:** School of Women’s Leadership of Ili Region of Almaty Oblast

**Project objective:** Create favorable environment for a woman so that she can realize herself as a person, a professional, a wife, and a mother

**Project description:**

1. Assistance to leaders interested in improving their activities, wishing to acquire knowledge and skills that will help them to be successful leaders, mentors and teachers.
2. Formation of women personnel reserve to promote them to public and policy work.
3. Promotion of success stories of women, development of leadership skills, building successful communication and competitiveness skills.
4. Active participation in large-scale gender education of the population, as well as the creation of a bank of ideas, projects and initiatives to address pressing socio-economic and socio-political problems of the region.

**Target group:**

Women living in Ili district, Almaty region

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### *Kazakhstan Family Business Association*

**Country:** Kazakhstan

**Project title:** Kazakhstan Family Business Forum

**Project objective:** Popularizing and promoting the traditions of family businesses in the country

**Project description:**

To promote family business an Award - Recognition was initiated in 2014 by the Region’s Golden Foundation, which assumes noting merits of the best family companies in Kazakhstan. A project "100 family companies in Kazakhstan" aims at promoting the activity of family businesses, as well as family relationships and continuity of generations.

With the direct assistance from the Association of Family Business of Kazakhstan, women started 11 new companies, and four companies were saved from closing, continuing to operate and having in the business plans of the founders passing business to children.

**Target group:**

Women living in the city of Almaty in Kazakhstan

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### *Women’s Leadership Fund*

**Country:** Kazakhstan

**Project title:** Business Mom

**Project objective:** Involvement in entrepreneurship and support women entrepreneurs in Almaty and in the Republic of Kazakhstan

**Project description:**

NGO implements a project to support women's business initiatives in the interests of families and children. "Business Mom" conducts training sessions on the basics of opening and developing of businesses and business tools at home for youth and women with young children.

**Target group:**

Women living in the city of Almaty in Kazakhstan

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*Kazakh Humanitarian Law Innovation University*

**Country:** Kazakhstan

**Project title:** Status and prospects of use of professional women's intellectual capacity at the level of decision-making in public offices

**Project objective:**

Identify the objective determinants of transformation and correction of gender stereotypes, determine trends in the development of gender component in government, revealing the dynamics of promoting women to decision-making level, the formation of the forms and methods of women's education and enlightenment, development of mechanisms to achieve equal representation of women in public offices at decision - making level.

**Project description:**

1. Gender consideration of personnel policy. Staff training methods with a gender perspective.
2. Formation and improvement of the national mechanism for gender equality.
3. Formation of models of gender identity, types of behavior oriented toward ideology of equal rights and equal opportunities.

**Target group:**

Wider audience, including public officers at the level of managerial decision making

**KYRGYZ REPUBLIC**

*Innovative Solution Inc*

**Country:** Kyrgyz Republic

**Project title:** Strengthening accountability in financing for gender equality

**Project objective:**

- Development of mechanisms for the integration of gender equality and women's rights in the new forms of external aid in the country
- Promotion of gender-sensitive budgeting, planning and monitoring
- Economic empowerment of women in the Kyrgyz Republic

**Project description:**

1. Assessment and enhancement of the capacity of the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Economy of the Kyrgyz Republic for the inclusion of a gender perspective in the management of public finances and in the discussions on coordination of external assistance
2. Implementation of gender-sensitive approaches and tools for the development of strategic documents such as a budget circular, draft of state budget, long-term and medium-term programs for sustainable development and other legal acts
3. Assistance to gender activists and lawyers for their participation in the national consultation on a state and local budgets
4. Providing technical support for gender activists and lawyers in mapping women's entrepreneurship in the Kyrgyz Republic in accordance with the matrix of the monitoring and evaluation of the National Strategy for Gender Equality and the National action plan
5. Providing technical support for gender activists and lawyers in the analysis of gender expertise of local budgets execution

6. Creation of a platform for effective dialogue between the government, NGOs, donors, agencies and businesses in order to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of external aid in the Kyrgyz republic and to improve accountability in financing of gender equality

**Target beneficiary groups:**

Government, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Economy, Ministry of social development, women-entrepreneurs, gender activists, businesses

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*Open Line*

**Country:** Kyrgyz Republic

**Project title:** Social Campaign "The rape of girls for the purpose of marriage"

**Project objective:**

- To contribute in changing society's attitudes towards the negative phenomenon of forcing girls to marry against their wishes by giving such information that people can use to change their behavior and attitudes
- To toughen (criminal) responsibility for the kidnapping of brides
- To break down cultural stereotypes

**Project description:**

The Social Campaign "The rape of girls for the purpose of marriage" included several activities:

1. Creation of the social campaign "Against kidnapping of bribes", 5 videos
2. A campaign "A gift to a parliamentarian" <http://openline.kg/novosti/141-akciya-podarok-deputatu.html>
3. A campaign "A happy family" <http://openline.kg/video/207-schastlivaya-semya-videoryad.html>
4. A campaign "My hero" <http://openline.kg/video/183-fleshmob-moy-geroy.html>

**Target beneficiary groups:**

Potential victims of kidnapping, their parents, potential kidnappers

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*Women Support Center*

**Country:** Kyrgyz Republic

**Project title:** Promotion of political and economic empowerment of women in the new context of the Kyrgyz Republic

**Project objective:**

- To create a unified information network of regional NGOs "KYWRAW" for effective promotion and protection of political and economic empowerment of women
- To strengthen the capacity of activists and experts in women's NGOs and policymakers
- To develop mechanisms for dialogue between public officials and non-governmental organizations in order to establish in 7 regions of the Kyrgyz Republic, which will be used for the promotion of political and economic empowerment of women in line with CEDAW and national commitments on gender equality

**Project description:**

1. Strengthening the capacity of women's NGOs and networks on the regional level through involvement in KYWRAW network in order to improve cooperation in the promotion of political and economic empowerment of women
2. Trainings on women's rights and international human rights with a focus on gender analysis skills and lobbying for gender equality.
3. Documenting and recording violations of women's rights, research and data collection for the preparation of an alternative CEDAW report
4. Trainings on modern IT technologies

5. Organizing joint lobbying and advocacy for political and economic rights of women at the local, national and international levels (Alternative Report, the use of an individual complaints mechanism to the Committee CEDAW)
6. Active participation in national, regional and global networks on gender issues
7. Improving dialogue with authorities at all levels (village, city, region, country)

**Target beneficiary groups:**

NGOs, women, government officials on local and national levels

**Moldova**

***“Cheia Schimbarilor” (Key of Change)***

**Country:** Moldova

**Project title:** Roma Women – Modern Women!

**Project objective:**

Roma communities, especially women, will be informed of their rights and benefits of learning and working. Roma women will get to know what available opportunities exist. The project will make the first steps of integrating Roma women into the society, and these women will be encouraged to develop their skills.

**Project description:**

- (i) Developing the leadership capacity of Roma women
- (ii) Involving Roma women in public/social/economic life
- (iii) Reducing discrimination

**Target beneficiary group:**

Roma women and youth; other communities in RM

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***International Center for Women Rights Protection and Promotion Center “La Strada”***

**Country:** Moldova

**Project title:** Empowering Women and Girls from Moldova to Live Free from Domestic Violence

**Project objective:**

The Project goal is to contribute to the attenuation of domestic violence (DV) in Moldova by fostering and supporting the de-facto implementation of the Law No. 45 in the Republic of Moldova. The project will apply a holistic approach through: 1) direct assistance and protection measures such as information support & empowerment of identified DV women survivors including via improving their position by promoting their legal rights; 2) primary DV phenomenon prevention via education of current young generation; and 3) monitoring of the current status of the DV victims and lobbying their rights realization via strengthening the government’s efforts including the amendment of legal remedies and improvement of current mechanisms to effectively prevent and respond to the needs of women suffering from DV.

In order to accomplish the Project goal, the following 3 main objectives have been chosen:

*Objective I.* Develop a “zero tolerance” attitude to DV among youth;

*Objective II.* Ensure access of women and girls suffering from DV to adequate legal and social protection

*Objective III.* Support the government’s efforts in building a (legal) mechanism to effectively prevent and respond to the needs of women suffering from DV

**Project description:**

*Activity I.1.* “La Strada” selected and trained a group of 20 volunteers/young people who served as peer-to-peer educators. They have been trained to define DV and its forms, to understand the cycle of DV, introduced into legal

provision of the Law No. 45 and to practical techniques for delivering seminars for youth. Each participant received a specially developed thematic Guide.

*Activity I.2.* The trained peer-to-peer-educators have conducted seminars for teenagers to promote 0-tolerance to DV and non-violent relationships. Overall, the seminars were aimed at empowering young people to adopt a non-violent behavior, identify and cope with first signals of violent relationships thus building their capacities to act as equal social partners in the future families free from violence.

*Activity II.1.* “La Strada” continued running the National Trust-Line for victims of DV. The Trust-Line was launched in November 2009 and is functioning 12 hours a day, 7 days a week and is served by 3 trained and experienced counselors. The women victims of DV got support in stabilizing the psycho-emotional status by provision of primary psychological phone counseling, empowered to live free from DV as well as their partners to build violent-free relationships; both subjects of DV have been facilitating access to service providers by informing them about their rights and obligations according to the Law 45 and informing about services available in their regions, depending on needs, and included social mediation carried out by the counselors.

*Activity II.2.* Each 4th women suffering from DV calling the Trust-Line was requesting specialized legal counseling and/or legal support and representation. A specialized attorney was hired that defended the interests of women in the court, initialized procedure for the release of Protection Order, etc.

*Activity III.1.* “La Strada” carried out an analysis of DV phenomenon and national responses to it from the Trust-Line calls perspective as well as from the analysis of the legal cases assisted in 2012-13.

The analyses allowed to: (a) elucidate profile and origins of the issue; (b) describe the needs of victims and degree of national responses in terms of content, durability and accessibility of assistance infrastructure as well as effectiveness of the law enforcement and justice system; (c) develop recommendations to the government to improve the situation/ support policy makers in fostering integration of victim-centered approach in the process of Law No. 45 implementation including capacity building and assistance infrastructure development.

**Target beneficiary group:**

Youth; victims of trafficking and DV for various professional groups; women and children victims of trafficking, DV and child sexual commercial exploitation; Government of RM

**Tajikistan**

*Lonely Women Support Center “Nuri Umed”*

**Country:** Tajikistan

**Project title:** Project “Women, Land, Life”

**Project objective:**

The project is aiming to raise awareness of women, improve skills and assist with job finding, assist in obtaining legal documents and increase family income.

**Project description:**

The project is creating a women’s committee of the village. It selects heads of committees, and focuses on joint problem identification and solutions/ mechanisms to overcome priority issues.

**Target beneficiary group:**

Widow, separated, wife of migrants that have not received any financial support for more than 5 years, single women (over 35)

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*League of Women Lawyers*

**Country:** Tajikistan

**Project title:** Access to justice

**Project objective:**

Protection of the civil, social, economic and cultural right of women

**Project description:**

Opening free legal service centers in the 7 biggest cities of the country. The service provision is wider as centers cover the adjacent districts, and lawyers of the centers make field visits to other districts to provide legal service to women of farther districts as well.

**Target beneficiary group:**

All women needing legal service

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*Chashmai Hayot*

**Country:** Tajikistan

**Project title:** Source of Happiness

**Project objective:**

- Helping to resolve issues within the family
- supporting the concept of healthy family
- raising the legal awareness of women

**Project description:**

Provision of a wide range of trainings on the psychology of relationships, family budget management, women's rights, religious aspects of women's rights and responsibilities, etc.

**Target beneficiary group:**

200 women and girls aged 16-65

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*National Association of small and medium enterprises of Tajikistan*

**Country:** Tajikistan

**Project title:** Regional competition – Women, the owners of land

**Project objective:**

- Attracting the attention of the public to the issues of the women heads of 'Dehkan farms' of Khatlon Oblast
- Stimulating women to improve management of their farms
- Enforcing entrepreneurial activities of farms through obtaining of land certificates.

**Project description:**

The project is identifying best examples of rational use of land by women, owners and farm share-holders, having their land certificates in Khatlon Oblast. This way of recognition stimulates better resource management by land owners and stimulates other farm owners to obtain land certificates as well.

**Target beneficiary group:**

Female share-holders and owners of the farms.

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*Committee of Women and Family Affairs under the Government of Tajikistan*

**Country:** Tajikistan

**Project title:** Role of women in democratic elections

**Project objective:** Raising legal/democratic elections knowledge of women and youth

**Project description:** The project has conducted 1 day trainings in student dormitories in Vahdat and Dushanbe cities (before the elections) to raise the knowledge and rights of women relevant to elections. Through the project 25 women have become members of local election committees. Provided training has helped to increase number of women participating in elections (Nov 2013).

**Target beneficiary group:** Female share-holders and owners of the farms.

## Turkmenistan

### *Yenme*

**Country:** Turkmenistan

**Project title:** Social adaptation of women with disabilities, ensuring equal conditions and opportunities for professional training and employment

**Project objective:**

- Create conditions for the development of self-employment skills and acquiring special knowledge, skills for organizing home-based work and the entrepreneurial skills of women with disabilities;
- Provide opportunities and conditions for the development and self-fulfillment of women with disabilities by teaching them crafts and souvenirs manufacturing skills

**Project description:**

Within the project, the project participants learned to create popular things on the market, and were trained in the basics of entrepreneurship and the technology of starting a business. The support of initiatives to establish businesses was provided through training on business planning and provision of access to management using the example of a needlework shop. In addition, the project has collected information about traditional crafts, which later will be used by women to develop their services. Project participants – women with disabilities- met with other like-minded people and shared with them their ideas and advice. Another activity of the needlework shop was an exhibition and sale of the finished work, which was carried out at the end of the Project.

**Target beneficiary group:**

Women with disabilities. Society in general, as the project served as an example of training and employment of people with disabilities.

## Uzbekistan

### *Bektemir Branch of Tashkent Society of People with Disabilities*

**Country:** Uzbekistan

**Project title:** “To Live in a Deserved Way and Work Productively!”

**Project objective:**

- Economic and social empowerment of women
- Improving the social status of women
- Acquiring steady life philosophy, self-confidence and confidence in the future

**Project description:**

The aim of the project is to provide support to women from rural areas and remote city districts in developing and achieving their public and civic potential and implementing their artistic and professional capabilities.

The uniqueness of the project is in the approach where women with disabilities are getting the knowledge together with healthy women for quite a long time. This condition facilitated painless integration of 20 women with disabilities into civil society. Healthy women received the lessons of tolerance and merciful attitudes to the disabled.

The following training was conducted within the project:



- capacity building (effective job search and preparing for employment, leadership, skills for independent living for women with disabilities)
- arts and crafts (carpet weaving, sewing and needlework)

The other component of the project was devoted to outreach:

- Exhibition and sale of works, prepared by women during the project with the aim of attracting potential employers, customers and buyers
- Presentation of the project to NGOs in the country
- Publishing a yearbook on the project
- Working with media and wide public
- Polling of public opinion

**Target beneficiary group:**

50 women and girls (including 20 with disabilities)

*The Center of Civic Initiatives Support*

**Country:** Uzbekistan

**Project title:** Establishment of Women’s Business and Social Activities Centers

**Project objective:** The goals and objectives of the project are to strengthen capacities and enhance social protection of vulnerable groups of women in Tashkent, Andijan and Ferghana.

**Project description:**

During 20 months of project implementation, the Civic Network to provide coordinated and targeted support to vulnerable women has been established jointly with the Women’s Committee of Uzbekistan, Ministry of Labor and Social Protection and other stakeholders. The Network was created using methods and experience of international counterparts of the project and EU trainers. Referral and feedback mechanisms to provide effective legal, psychological and social support to women have also been established within the project and was effectively working within the Women’s Business and Social Activities Centers established on the basis of executive NGO branches.

A number of trainers and qualified staff have been trained to provide legal, psychological and information support within other NGOs in the country.

Statistics on the project: during the period from April 2012 to June 2013 Women’s Business and Social Activities Centers received 3897 people, including 2060 Hot Line calls, 956 visits of beneficiaries to psychologist, 968 visits to lawyer and 207 visits to business consultant.

Implementation of the project facilitated:

- Strengthening of social partnership between the government and non-government organizations to jointly solve the problems in social protection of vulnerable groups of women in pilot regions; and
- Bringing together women from risk groups or prone to join risk group living in project territory and joint identification of their problems and their socialization and adaptation through information-education programs.

Organization of computer courses, sewing and pastry laboratories ensure sustainability of the project after completion.

**Target beneficiary group:**

Main group: unemployed, poor women; women-returned convicts; single mothers; women from socially vulnerable families;

Secondary group: Women’s Committee of Uzbekistan, National Association of NGOs of Uzbekistan, Ministry of Labor and Social Protection, women and youth organizations’ leaders, local communities and local governments (mahallas), regional bodies on labor and employment, media, NGO in project territories;

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## *Women's Committee of Uzbekistan*

**Country:** Uzbekistan

**Project title:** Advancement of economic rights of women of Uzbekistan (Develop and implement the program of trainings of economic knowledge and skills for rural women, establish Peer-support groups (PSG), assistance in getting microcredit)

**Project objective:**

To empower rural women and facilitate their active participation in social and economic development processes aimed at improving well-being of rural population. The concept of the project is in combining social mobilization, formation of credit schemes and ensuring access to microcredits through financial institutions.

The project covers 6 pilot regions - Fergana, Kashkadarya, Djizak, Syrdarya, Tashkent provinces and Republic of Karakalpakstan.

**Project description:**

The Project includes the following activities:

1. Development and introduction of the *mechanism to improve women's status through access to microcredit* (Women's Committee of Uzbekistan(WCU)).
2. Concluding a Memorandum between the WCU and Microcreditbank on introduction of new credit arrangements for poor women on the basis of group collateral. Microcreditbank developed and introduced simplified credit arrangements, including package of documents for women from socially vulnerable groups.
3. Microcreditbank provides by 2,300,000.00 soums for credit to PSG, which have approved business plans.
4. Establishment and formation of PSGs (85 PSGs having 5-6 women have been created in pilot regions).
5. Business and capacity trainings (more than 500 women).

Results:

- Mechanism to access microcredit tested and working.
- More than 360 women have developed business plans and documents to start their own small business.
- 100% of repayment of credit is guaranteed in all the pilot regions. All credit funds have been used for the intended purposes. More than 230 women have got jobs.

Quality of life of women and their families improved according to the monitoring of project results. Very important outcome if improved trust in financial institutions and agencies involved in women's issues.

**Target beneficiary group:**

Women living in rural areas (6 pilot regions- - Fergana, Kashkadarya, Djizak, Syrdarya, Tashkent provinces and Republic of Karakalpakstan).