

Vocational training and income generation for IDPs and refugees in Azerbaijan with support of the Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration



This project, started to be implemented under financial support of the Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration (BPRM) of the U.S. Department of State and United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) targets at the refugees and IDPs, especially the youth, populated in Baku and Sumgayit cities.

The project aims at raising self-confidence of refugee and IDPs populated in Baku and Sumgayit cities, and the refugees registered by UNHCR. The project basically focuses on increasing more chances for the refugees and IDPs for generating income through developing their vocational skills, and

providing them with technical and financial support for starting small businesses.

During the first quarter of the project's implementation, some organizational matters like updating visual means of the office, installation of new computer sets and loading new versions of computer programs which would be taught to the refugee and internally displaced youth, etc. were settled. Moreover, meetings were arranged in the RWYC related to the project's goal and objectives, activity directions, approach etc.

During the meetings organized in the RWYC related to starting the Apprenticeship courses, an information was provided about the essence and major principles of approach of the Apprenticeship component. The participants of the meetings were informed about starting new courses on new modern trades from this year, and announcements were declared related to organization of the courses.

28 refugees from Baku city and 48 internally displaced youth from Sumgayit city applied for involvement in the apprenticeship courses. The mostly interested trades were hairdressing and nurse. Majority of the applicants were women. The courses will start in Baku at the beginning of 2013.

Meetings were arranged with community activists and leaders in 10 communities of Sumgayit and surrounding areas, during which wide information was provided about the project, its goal and objectives, as well as the apprenticeship courses and computer training planned to be organized within the framework of the project. Announcements were put up in the areas densely populated by IDPs.

Umid plans to cover a total of 1330 direct beneficiaries - 600 refugees in Baku and 730 IDPs in Sumgayit cities. Considering indirect beneficiaries, the ultimate number of beneficiaries is expected to reach 4,000 people.



Meeting in the RWYC in Baku



Meeting in Khalaj community in Sumgayit

Computer courses and internet services - Computer courses on three computer programs have been planned to be organized: MS Office 2007, Adobe Photoshop and Corel Draw. During the first quarter of the project's implementation, number of the applicants for the computer courses were 17 people in Baku, and 50 people in Sumgayit. Much more interest was displayed for Office programs, i.e. number of the youth who had applied for the courses on Office programs was 14 people.

During the quarter, 13 youth in Baku were involved in computer trainings. 7 youth out of them completed the courses successfully, and others continue attending the courses. 104 youth benefited from internet services of the computer center.

Business trainings and linking with loan institutions - Important issues like organization and management of small business, controlling finance turnover etc. will be taught to the refugees and IDPs through business trainings. For this purpose, training packages on 5 topics were designed by "Umid" SSD's Business Consultant.

In this issue:

Vocational training and income generation for IDPs and refugees in Azerbaijan with support of the Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration	1
Building capacity of refugee and asylum-seekers in Azerbaijan	2
Support to IDPs in Azerbaijan through increasing income-generation and employment opportunities	3
Next achievements of SEDA project	4
Successful completion is the greatest present	5
Ecological education in schools under support of Coca-Cola Foundation	6

Building capacity of refugee and asylum-seekers in Azerbaijan



"Vocational Training for Refugees and Asylum-Seekers in Azerbaijan" project being implemented under financial support of United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees mainly focuses on improving economic opportunities of the target group, including refugees and asylum-seekers populated in Baku. The project goal was achieved through the following activity directions:

According to the State Statistics Committee, approx. 50 thousands people from 687 thousands IDPs were settled in Sumgayit and around it. They were fled from 10 occupied regions of Azerbaijan Republic.

1) Enhancing vocational skills of asylum-seekers and refugees through involving them in the apprenticeship courses:



Dressmaking course

During the last quarter of the project, monitoring of the apprenticeship courses, including the apprentices' attendance, provision of the trade fields with required materials was conducted. The apprentices' attendance was satisfactory as always, they came to the trade fields outside of the training days, and applied their knowledge received through on-the-job training in practice, and thus increased their capacity and skills. Despite of the end of the project year, a number of the applications to the apprenticeship courses was high, i.e. 25 applications were received during the last three months. Number of graduates of the apprenticeship courses was 5 (hairstresser-3, vysagiste-2) during the quarter. They were awarded with relevant certificates.

In sum, 88 applications were received throughout the project's implementation. Much more interest was provided to hairstresser and nurse trades. 25 youth were involved in the apprenticeship courses and were awarded with certificates upon completion of the courses.

6 meetings were organized in the trade-fields and RWYC for the purpose of improving the on-the-job training organized through Apprenticeship method. During these meetings, the invited graduates of the apprenticeship courses, trade-masters, parents and the youth shared their impressions, and provided their suggestions on raising the courses' efficiency. All the meetings were organized with direct participation of authoritative representatives of the donor organization.

2) Building computer and internet skills of refugees and asylum-seekers:

During the last quarter of the project's implementation, 17 youth applied for involvement in the computer courses. Majority of the applicants were interested in MS Office 2007 program – 14 applications. Other applications were for Adobe Photoshop and Corel Draw programs. During the quarter, 6 youth were involved in computer courses, 2 youth—in Adobe Photoshop course, and 4 youth—in MS Office 2007 course. All of these youth completed the courses and were awarded with certificates.

In sum, 94 youth applied for computer courses throughout the project's implementation. 40 youth completed successfully the courses: 30 youth completed the courses on MS Office 2007 and Adobe Photoshop programs, and 10 youth completed the courses on Corel Draw program.

Number of the youth benefited from internet services were 253 people.



Awarding the computer course graduates with certificates



Meeting with parents of the children of international summer camp in the RWYC

3) Organizing international summer camp for the children from refugee and asylum-seeker families:

Positive results of the organization of international summer camp was focused by the refugee communities' attention. Positive changes in behaviour of the children, attended the international summer camp were obvious in discussions held during the meetings with parents of the children. Conversations about the summer camp raised interest of other children as well. The parents and children stated their wish of organization of and their involvement in such kind of international summer camp in the following years, too.

According to the United Nations, a refugee is a person who flees their home country due to a "well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion".

Support to IDPs in Azerbaijan through increasing income-generation and employment opportunities



Since 1998, "Umid" SSD has made efforts in a direction of improving the livelihood of the internally displaced people under support of UNHCR, i.e. it achieved successful implementation of some projects in Sumgayit city and surrounding areas populated by about 50000 refugees, and currently "Umid" SSD continues its performance in these areas. In order to teach various trades or professions to the children of vulnerable families, who lost their parents or to IDP children, who are not able to have a education, "Umid" SSD has been implementing "Support to IDPs in Azerbaijan through increasing income-generation and employment opportunities" project successfully since 1998. Hundreds of young boys and girls become masters and continue their life as real masters every year. And thus, they leave poverty and start their businesses. As in previous years, the Apprenticeship component has been successfully realized in Sumgayit city and surrounding areas this year, too. Alongside with acquiring various trades or professions, the internally displaced youth were taught preliminary computer skills, and benefited from free-of-charge internet services in the office.

The project goals were achieved through the following two activity directions during the last quarter of the project:



Awarding the apprenticeship course graduates with certificates



Photo-video course

1) Increasing income generation and employment opportunities of IDP youth via involving them in apprenticeship courses and business trainings:

From the beginning of the year, various trades have been taught to 20 internally displaced youth, 9 youth out of whom are functioning as independent masters and make income for their families. Other graduates are providing services in their houses.

In sum, 1 person started a new business, and 8 youth were provided with jobs in the workshops where they

had received on-the-job training. Besides, "Umid" SSD's Apprenticeship Specialists assessed new jobs for other graduates looking for jobs, after which informed the graduates about the results of this assessment.

During the last quarter, 3 youth completed hairdresser courses, and 2 youth - Photo-video courses successfully, and were awarded with certificates.

8 graduates of the apprenticeship courses, who had started their businesses, were provided with grants in amount of 3865 AZN, which were expended for purchase of demand-driven equipment and tools.

2) Enhancing computer skills of IDP youth; developing database of beneficiaries' skills and capacities:

During October-December of 2012, 15 youth, who had been involved in computer training on MS Office (MS Word 2007, Excel 2007, Power Point, Outlook) programs twice a week each for 1,5 hours in "Umid" SSD's Sumgayit Office., completed the courses and awarded with certificates.

During October-December of 2012, 59 youth benefited from free internet services organized in "Umid" SSD's Sumgayit Office for the youth. In sum, 206 youth and adolescents benefited from free internet services throughout the project's implementation.



Providing grants to the apprenticeship course graduates



Computer training for IDP youth in "Umid" SSD's Sumgayit Office

The purpose of an apprenticeship is to provide both hands-on training and theoretical instruction so that an interested person can learn the full range of skills and information behind a highly skilled occupation. By participating in an apprenticeship, he can learn the subtleties of the craft from an expert and can begin his own practice under close observation.

Next achievements of SEDA project



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

SEDA tagline: Strengthening citizen participation in Regional Development

**EAST • WEST
MANAGEMENT
INSTITUTE**



Common community meeting in Ashigalilar community of Beylagan rayon

During the quarter, activities continued in the communities targeted under SEDA project, i.e. common community meetings were conducted for disseminating the information about the project and electing CDC members, as well as trainings and round tables were organized for building capacities of CDC members. Moreover, various events were organized and discussions were held with the CDC and community members for assessing the communities' needs, conducting the surveys and developing the project proposals.

Meetings organized in order to get prepared for common community meetings:

7 meetings with Municipality members, ExCom representatives and community activists were arranged in 7 communities of the Northern and Aran regions for purposes of providing the information about the project. During these meetings, high importance of the planned common community meetings, as well as necessity of maximum involvement of community members in such meetings were stressed.

Information dissemination about the project: 7 common community meetings were conducted in 7 communities of the Northern and Aran regions with participation of "Umid" SSD's staff members, rural ExCom representatives, local Municipality and community members for the purpose of providing information about SEDA project, selection criteria for and commitments of CDC members, and for starting the community discussions. During these meetings, detailed information was provided about SEDA project, its components, goal and objectives, the project's procedures and activity directions, future cooperation opportunities were discussed, and the selection criteria for and commitments of CDC members were explained for the meetings' participants by the Community Mobilizers.

Electing CDC members: 7 common community meetings were organized in 7 target communities of the Northern and Aran regions for the purpose of electing CDC members (or re-forming CDCs). During these meetings, detailed information about SEDA project was provided to and a process of conducting an election was explained for the meetings' participants by "Umid" SSD's Mobilizers. During such common community meetings, conducted for the purpose of electing the members of Community Development Committees, 15-25 candidates were proposed from every community, and 9-13 candidates out of them were elected for membership of every CDC with majority of votes.

Capacity Building – Round Tables and Trainings: 14 Round Tables on 5 topics – "Duties and commitments of CDC members, selection of Coordinators, designing a community's statue, map, passport and CDC's structural table", "Needs Assessment and Conducting surveys", "Analysis of surveys and evaluation of community needs", "Project Proposal Development" and "Preparing the Project's Technical Description" were conducted and discussions were held in 11 communities of the Northern region and 10 communities of Aran region. 36 training sessions on 5 topics – "Community Mobilization", "Leadership and Team Work", "Community Fund and Community Contribution Management", "Needs Evaluation" and "Project Proposal Writing" were organized in 4 communities of the Northern region, and 6 communities of Aran region for the purpose of building capacities of CDC members.

Project proposals: 12 initial project proposals were received from 2 communities of the Northern region, and 2 communities of Aran region. Draft manuscript versions of Technical Descriptions of 14 projects were prepared by 14 communities of the Northern and Aran regions, and improved by "Umid" SSD's personnel.

SEDA messages:

***Building partnerships
Creating economic opportunities
Developing capacities
Engaging civil society***



CDC election in Ashagi Chemenli community of Beylagan rayon



"Mobilization" training in Charkhi community of Khachmaz rayon



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

Successful completion is the greatest present



ExxonMobil



ConocoPhillips

"Community Based Support to Producers of Dairy Products" project, which had started in November of 2009 under financial support of United States Agency for International Development and BP and Co-Ventures, was completed successfully. For successful completion of the project, the project activities were proceeded resolutely during the last quarter of the project period as well.

Various measures in a direction of establishment and rehabilitation of MCPs for the purpose of improving the dairy producers' access to the market, raising their awareness, extending their relations were taken during the quarter.

The dairy producers were provided with "Organization and management of veterinary and zootechnical events", "Production and processing hygiene of ecological clean milk", "Formation of initiative groups" and "Stock taking" trainings. Alongside with the farmers, the MCP personnel were provided with trainings on "Analyzing milk, working principle of analysis means and ways of their usage" and "Supervision over sanitary-hygienic condition in MCPs" for raising their relevant knowledge and skills.

Moreover, "Clean Farm" contest was conducted for purposes of creating stimula for establishing model farms in the target communities, as well as for normal feeding of the cattle, taking after them and showing humanist attitude. During the contest, evaluations were conducted in 40 husbandries from 7 communities, and 8 husbandries were selected as winners of the contest. The winners were awarded with gifts.

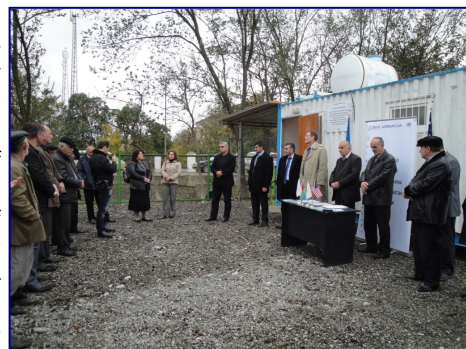
On November 29, 2012, "Value Chain of Milk – opportunities, development perspectives and problems" Conference was organized in Ganja city within the framework of "Community Based Support to Producers of Dairy Products" project. The conference mainly aimed at identification of problems and challenges existing in the dairy sector, investigating ways of their solution and facilitating cooperation opportunities through gathering together the participants of Value Chain of Milk. Representatives of "Seba" and "Atena" Milk Processing Factories, as well as Azerbaijan Scientific Research Animal-Husbandry Institute, Agro-Mechanics Scientific Research Institute, Azerbaijan State Agrarian University, Technology University of Azerbaijan, project experts, MCP employees, Support Centers and members of target communities participated in the conference. At the end of the conference, necessity of joint performance of all the participants of Value Chain of Milk was stressed for development of the dairy sector, and it was decided to work in close collaboration in future.

On November 20, 2012, opening ceremonies of the MCPs were organized in Karrar settlement and Garabujag community of Kurdamir region. More than 410 husbandries (about 1840 community members) are expected to benefit directly from the newly established MCP in Karrar settlement, and more than 310 husbandries (about 1500 community members) will benefit from the MCP, newly established in Garabujag community. Moreover, a MCP was established in Gushchular community of Goranboy region, and rehabilitation works were realized in Yevlakh MCP during the last quarter of the project.

In sum, 279658 litres of raw milk was collected from more than 250 husbandries located in the target communities and sold to MPFs during the quarter, which earned 114660 AZN for the target communities. And this means that every husbandry's income from sale of milk comprised about 150 AZN per month.



"Value Chain of Milk - opportunities, development perspectives and problems" Conference



Opening ceremony of MCP in Garabujag community

We believe that the target and neighbor communities will benefit from the project and make achievements upon completion of the project, too. And the dairy sector will be approached as a business field.

Ecological education in schools under support of Coca-Cola Foundation



At the end of 2011, "Umid" Support to Social Development Public Union submitted "Rehabilitation of water, sewerage system and creation of ecological corner" project to Coca-Cola Foundation, which was approved and started to be financed from January of

2012. The necessity of achieving wider and more comprehensive goals became irrefutable rather than that the following 2 preliminary goals of the project:

- improvement of ecological condition, conducting awareness-raising activities among schoolchildren, and promoting ecological education, and
- repair and rehabilitation of water and sewerage systems in secondary schools # 300, 301, 297 and 298.

After discussions with various stakeholders, it was decided to show an initiative of applying "Socio-Ecological Model" for the purpose of development of ecological behaviour in the secondary schools.



The education basically aims at formation of human behaviour.

The societies all over the world create education systems in order to develop citizens' behaviour.

The project was implemented on the following components:

- 1) Ecological education in schools
- 2) Improvement to clear and safe water
- 3) Rehabilitation of sewerage system and ecological infrastructure in schools, repair of lavatories

"Coca-Cola's friends" groups consisted of the pupils of 6th-9th forms were formed, booklets on "Drink clear water", "Water we drink", "Water is a source of life" were distributed, "Ecology and Environment" trainings were conducted and Ecological Corners having positive impact in the pupils' aesthetic and ecological education were formed under Ecological Education measures.

Water purification filters were installed in the secondary schools # 297, 300 and 301 under the second component, and water lines from these filters to the schools' courtyard were constructed. Due to these measures, access of 4473 people to ecologically pure water was improved.

Sewerage systems of the schools were rehabilitated and lavatories were repaired under the third component.

As a inseparable part of all of these activities, awareness-raising activities were realized in parallel to both repair works and installation of the filters in the schools, i.e. the schoolchildren were informed about advantages of drinking pure water and keeping the lavatories clean, as well as about after-effects of bad sanitarian condition.

Completion of construction and education part of the project came across with the beginning of education year in Azerbaijan, and an opening ceremony was organized on September 10, in the eve of the beginning of the education year. The opening ceremony was organized jointly with Binagadi ExCom.



Opening ceremony of the project

Our addresses

Head Office:

Baku, Ahmad Javad str.-7A
Tel./ Fax (+99412) 434 53 15; (+99412) 434 96 98
E-mail: office@umid-hsdm.com

Baku Branch Office:

Narimanov r., Orujaliyev str.- G-46
Tel: (+99412) 437 82 39

Sumqayit Branch Office:

6th m/d, J. Mammadguluzade str.
Tel: (+99418) 642 55 18

Ganja Regional Office:

Suleyman Rahimov str.-30
Tel: (+99422) 57 48 62

