Technical Assistance Consultant’s Report

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Kyrgyz Republic: 16 Day Campaign to End Gender-Based Violence (2013)
Final Report

Prepared by UN Women—Kyrgyz Republic, UN Gender Theme Group—Kyrgyz Republic

For ADB
RETA 7563: Promoting Gender-Inclusive Growth in Central and West Asia Developing Member Countries

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Asian Development Bank
Final report on the 16 Days to end gender-based violence

2013
UN Gender-theme group
UN Women

Background

The 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence is an international campaign originating in 1991 from the first Women's Global Leadership Institute coordinated by the Center for Women's Global Leadership. The period from 25 November (International Day against Violence against Women) - until 10 December (International Human Rights Day) was set up in order to symbolically link violence against women with the issue of human rights violations. This 16-day period also highlights other significant dates including November 29, International Women Human Rights Defenders Day, December 1, World AIDS Day, and December 6, which marks the Anniversary of the Montreal Massacre. Over 5167 organizations in approximately 187 countries have participated in the 16 Days Campaign since 1991. The 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence Campaign continues proclaiming the theme “From Peace in the Home to Peace in the World: Let's Challenge Militarism and End Violence Against Women!” in 2013.

In Kyrgyzstan, the 16 Days campaign has been organized with support of the UN Gender Theme Group (GTG), led by UN Women. After an open call for input, feedback was received from the network of UNiTE to end violence against women and girls. UN Women, together with the Gender Theme Group mobilized more than 38 organizations and individuals to the Campaign. The organizers changed the theme into “Time to Act, Kyrgyzstan! Let’s Stop Violence against women and girls!” This was perceived to be closer and more related to the Kyrgyzstan country context.

Some fast facts of Kyrgyzstan

- The Ministry of Internal Affairs, which provides a hotline for victims of domestic violence, states that approximately 8,000 to 10,000 calls are received every year
- The Bishkek Central Hospital asserts that 40 to 50 victims of domestic violence are treated each month
- The Bishkek Children's Hospital #3 reports that 3 to 5 child-victims of sexual abuse are treated each month
- The NGO “Women’s Support Center” reports on around 11,800 cases of bride kidnapping and 2,000 cases of rape in 2011 (Kyz-Korgon Institute research (year: 2000))
12.2 % of women of Kyrgyz ethnicity get married before they reach age of consent (Multiple-Indicator Cluster (MICS) survey from OECD Development Centre (year: 2006))

HelpAge International has highlighted that according to a recent survey, 47 % of interviewees stated that in Kyrgyzstan domestic violence against older women and men has increased over the last ten years (http://www.helpage.org/silo/files/elder-abuse-in-kyrgyzstan-summary-of-the-elder-abuse-survey.pdf)

Objectives of the movement:

- raise awareness about gender-based violence as a human rights issue at local, national, regional levels
- strengthen local work around violence against women
- establish a clear link between local and international work to end violence against women
- provide a forum for organizers where they can develop and share new and effective strategies
- demonstrate the solidarity of women and men around the country, who mobilize themselves to act against violence against women and girls
- creating tools for advocacy to address the government in order to enhance the implementation process of already existing commitments to end violence against women and girls.

Campaign partners in Kyrgyzstan

Along with the UN structures, several International Organizations supported the events organized by the UNiTE movement: Asian Development Bank, OSCE, European Union, Soros Foundation in Kyrgyzstan, National Democratic Institute, and British Embassy in the Kyrgyz Republic.¹

Visual and printing materials used within the Campaign:

- 16 Days billboard is a banner that was traditionally placed at the UN House from 20 November to 10 December. The banner showed all the logos of different organizations participating in the events.

¹ Several civil society organizations and state institutions organized activities based on their own funds.
- UNiTE banners
- UNiTE T-shirts
- UNiTE orange ribbons
- Leaflets (leaflets were sent to all 7 oblasts of Kyrgyzstan on November 24; for Bishkek participants the materials were available at the UN Women office)
- CDs

Additional documents:
The 16 Days Calendar (English, Russian)
Press-release (English, Russian)
Budget
Asian Development Bank: USD 5.000
OSCE: USD 1.500
Soros Foundation: USD 1.000
National Democratic Institute: USD 500
UNFPA: USD 1.500
UNHRC: USD 2.000
UN Women: USD 5.000
EU UN project: USD 1.000
OHCHR: USD 2.200
UNDP: USD 10.000
UNICEF: USD 2.500
British Embassy: USD 400

Results of the campaign:

- **Objective 1**: raise awareness about gender-based violence as a human rights issue at local, national and regional levels

  Over 200 activities were conducted within the 16 Days Campaign all over the country

  40352 people were directly informed about forms of violence in Kyrgyzstan: gender based violence, domestic violence, bride-kidnapping, sexual violence, violence against elderly people, violence against children and etc.

  **Indirect recipients of the awareness raising campaign**: 2.5 million radio listeners all over Kyrgyzstan to radio stories, consultations, information sharing, discussions organized by the implementers. Radio channels such as Yntymak Radio, Talas radio, Issyk Kul “Volna” radio, “Retro FM”radio, “Kyrgyzstan Obondoru” radio, radio “Sanjyra”, radio “Most” participated.

  **Newspaper articles released in** “Yiyk Mildet” “Vesti Yssyk Kul” “Yssyk Kul kabarlary”; “KyzylTuu” “Akyikat newspaper” “Nookat Tany” “Vechernii Bishkek” and many other newspapers

  **TV coverage**: “El TR”, “Piramida”, Ysyk-Kul oblast TV, EMTV Karakol; “KTR”, Batken-TV, Osh Pirim TV, Osh TV, Chagilgan production studio.

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2 Some of the implementing NGOs have funded the activities by themselves
3 The calculation was based on the submitted reports (some reports are still pending)
Social and electronic media information flow:

http://www.rce.kg/2013/12/06/%D1%80%D1%83%D0%B1%D1%80%D0%B8%D0%BA%D0%B8/news/obsuzhdenie-voprosov-gendernogo-nasiliya-v-otnoshenii-pozhilyx-zhenshhin/

http://osh.akipress.org/news:214111/

http://www.avaaaz.org/ru/petition/Otsutstvie_nakazaniya_za_nasilstvennoe_pohishchenie_s_celyu_prinuzheniya_v_brac_vopreki_voli_devushki/?launch

http://members.vb.kg/2013/11/26/panorama/1_print.html

http://www.vb.kg/doc/252481_kyrgyzstan_bet_trevogy_v_sviazi_s_iznasilovaniem_devyshk.html

http://www.azattyk.kg/content/kyrgyzstan_talas_region_bride_kidnapping/25187200.html

http://www.azattyk.kg/content/kyrgyzstan_rights_kidnapping/25178019.html

http://www.facebook.com/pages/%D0%9E%D0%A2%D0%9A%D0%A0%D0%AB%D0%A2%D0%90%D0%AF-%D0%9B%D0%98%D0%9D%D0%98%D0%AF-%D0%9A%D0%AB%D0%97-%D0%90%D0%9B%D0%90-%D0%9A%D0%9D%D0%A7%D0%A3/D0%A3/204812639556739

http://openline.kg/351-fruits-schastya.html

http://openline.kg/video/344-ala-kachyrylgan-kanykeydin-kyzdarga-karya.html

www.hrab.kg

https://www.facebook.com/?ref=tn_tnmn


UNiTE Facebook followers [https://www.facebook.com/UNiTEKG?fref=ts](https://www.facebook.com/UNiTEKG?fref=ts) increased from 300 to 500 people. All the described activities are posted on the Facebook page. The main messages and the press-release can also be found on the UNiTE Blog [www.unitekyrgyzstan.klopp.kg](http://www.unitekyrgyzstan.klopp.kg)

- **Objective 2:** strengthen local work around violence against women

833 people were capacitated through trainings, seminars and round tables to take further action in actively promote life free of violence

- **Objective 3:** provide a forum in which organizers can develop and share new and effective strategies

A forum was conducted where participants from all over Kyrgyzstan have developed and passed recommendations to the Parliament concerning combating violence in the area of access of women to services in rural areas. Access to healthcare services, access to political participation, access to land and water and social rights were tackled. The NGO “Women’s Support Center” will monitor the recommendations to be implemented at the level of the legislative organ.

4062 signatures were collected within the 16 Days Campaign under the overall UNiTE petition against violence that will be handed over to the President in year 2014