



DVV International

Education for Everyone. Worldwide.  
Lifelong.

# DVV International in Central Asia: Best Projects and Practices

*15 years  
in the region*



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and Development

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# Foreword



## Dear Readers,

The present publication is dedicated to the anniversary of our engagement in Central Asia.

For already 15 years, the Institute for International Cooperation of the German Adult Education Association (DVV International) has been successfully implementing projects aiming at adult education promotion in three countries of the region – Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan.

Among the project activities in each of the countries, numerous conferences, forums and other regional events have been held. Study tours for representatives of local partners and target groups to the countries of Europe and Asia have been organised in order to present best practices in the field of Adult Education and Lifelong Learning, including the experience of the Folk High Schools (German Adult Education Centres, Volkshochschulen) in Germany.

The Regional office of DVV International for Central Asia had been established in 2002 in Uzbekistan. Later on, country offices in Kyrgyzstan (2009) and Tajikistan (2012) have been organised.

All projects implemented in Central Asia with the financial and technical support of DVV International are aimed at poverty reduction and raising living conditions of social vulnerable groups of the population. This will be achieved through personal development and employment training activities. For this purpose, development of non-formal education system and lobbying of Adult Education and Lifelong Learning have been supported in the region on the Macro-level.

Over the past 15 years, DVV International had supported projects on civic, historical and cultural education, re-socialisation of prisoners and ex-prisoners into the society, empowerment of women, youth and people with disabilities, training and re-training of local adult education personnel, capacity building of local partner organisations.

In addition, DVV International promotes networking and activities of Adult Education Associations in the countries, as well as publication of information, learning and scientific materials in the region. Within the frame of specific projects – production documentary films were supported.

Annual activities as Summer Academies or Adult Education Forums have become traditional major events, gathering together multipliers, experts, trainers and other stakeholders of Adult Education and Lifelong Learning. These regional events covered such issues as Adult Education Methods, Networking, 21st Century Skills, Establishing and developing Adult Education Centres and many others.

By implementing its activities, DVV International cooperates with governmental, non-profit and public organisations. Thus, during the 15 years in Central Asia – Ministries (Labour, Education, Culture, Interior), research centres, youth organisations, universities, institutes, colleges, vocational centres, non-governmental organisations and many others were among the partners.

This publication highlights best practices and experience of our involvement in the region to date. For providing you with an overview of our profile in the region - we selected the most interesting and successful projects, including also activities implemented in cooperation with the European Union and other international partners in Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan.

**Levan Kvatchadze**  
Regional Director for Central Asia  
DVV International

# DVV International Profile



**DVV International** is the Institute for International Cooperation of the German Adult Education Association (DVV). We fight poverty through education and promote development. As a specialised civil society organisation, we aim to provide more needs-oriented and high-quality education opportunities for youth and adults, especially for disadvantaged population groups. Our goal is to make relevant contributions around the world for the creation and development of sustainable structures, as well as to increase political recognition and public attention for youth and adult education. This is done in concert with our more than 200 civil society, state and scientific partners, with whom, in the past 50 years, we have built up a worldwide network and extensive expertise in more than 30 countries in Africa, Asia, Latin America and Europe. Our country and regional offices build local and regional cooperation and ensure the quality and effectiveness of our action in our partner countries.

We work at three levels in order to establish social structures enabling sustainable impacts of adult education and lifelong learning to be achieved: firstly, at target group level (*micro level*), secondly at the levels of the adult education organisations and of the network structures of the adult education sector in the project country and target region (*meso level*), and thirdly at the level of frameworks and budgets (*macro level*).

Our work focuses on literacy and basic education, vocational training, global and inter-cultural learning, environmental education and sustainable development, migration and integration, refugee work, health education, conflict prevention and democracy education.

DVV International finances its work with funds from institutional and private donors. In concert with national, regional and global adult education associations, DVV International promotes lobby work and advocacy for the human right to education and for lifelong learning. To achieve this, we orient ourselves on the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the global education agenda Education 2030 and the UNESCO World Conference on Adult Education (CONFINTEA). DVV International supports the European and global exchange of information and expertise through conferences, seminars and publications.

*„Political, economic and social instability and the resulting population displacement and migration, as well as technological, climatic and demographic developments and advancing digitalisation is changing learning needs and these need to be addressed with appropriate concepts.“*

We fight poverty through education and promote development. As a specialised civil society organisation, we aim to provide more needs-oriented and high-quality education opportunities for youth and adults, especially for disadvantaged population groups. Our goal is to make relevant contributions around the world for the creation and development of sustainable structures, as well as to increase political recognition and public attention for youth and adult education.

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# DVV International in Central Asia

DVV International has been working in Central Asia since 2002 with a regional office in Tashkent, Uzbekistan. In 2009 and 2012 respectively, DVV International country offices were established in Dushanbe (Tajikistan) and Bishkek (Kyrgyzstan).

**Main work focus of the work in Central Asia are:**

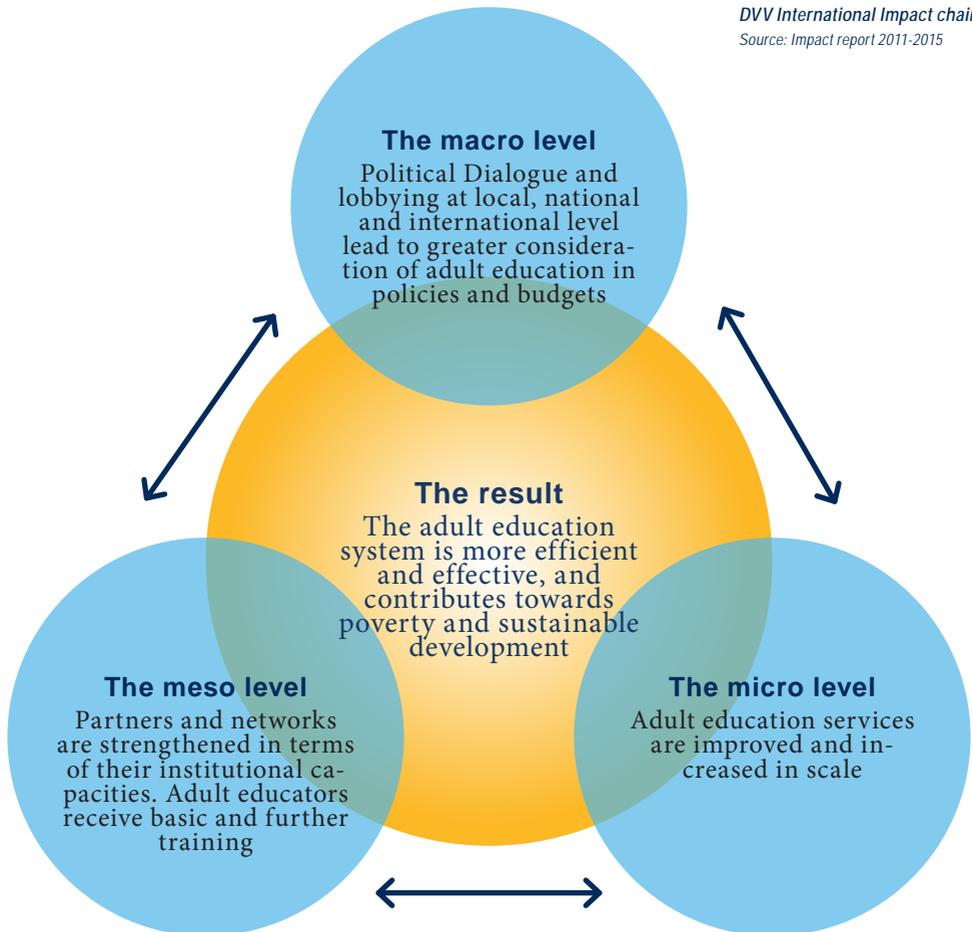
- The improvement of educational services for socially disadvantaged groups such as the unemployed, prisoners and ex-prisoners, women and youth, which are being offered labour market oriented training courses and life skills in cooperation with various adult education providers in cities and rural areas of countries in the region (Micro-level activities);
- Building the capacity of adult education providers of civil society and government organizations: DVV International strengthens the capacity of its partners through the training of personnel, updating of curricula, and provision of equipment (Meso level activities).
- Building the capacity of National Adult Education Associations: DVV International provides technical support and institutional development activities, promotes cooperation of associations with other adult education networks from the Central Asian region, and also with trans-national networks such as Asia South Pacific Association for Basic and Adult Education, ASPBAE (Meso level activities);



*Confectioner courses in Samarkand, Uzbekistan, 2016.*

- Promoting the national and international exchange on adult education issues: through counselling, involvement of international experts, arrangement of study tours, round-tables and conferences in collaboration with national and international actors, DVV International contributes to the improvement of framework conditions in the adult and non-formal education sectors (Macro-level activities);
- Contribution to quality improvement in the Adult Education field through professionalisation of involved staff via initial and further training programmes, i.e. "Curriculum globALE" (Meso level activities).

*DVV International Impact chain*  
Source: Impact report 2011-2015



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# Best practices of DVV International projects in the region

## Curriculum globALE (CG)

### What is Curriculum globALE?

A cross-cultural core curriculum for the training of adult educators worldwide.

### CG aims to

- Enhance the professionalisation of adult educators working in different contexts by providing a common competence standard;
- Support adult education providers in the design and implementation of train-the-trainer programmes;
- Foster knowledge exchange and mutual understanding between adult educators across countries and regions.

### Who will benefit from CG?

- Institutions providing train-the-trainer programmes may use the CG for designing training offers according to a global standard;
- Individuals wishing to teach in adult education will gain a professional qualification of global relevance by taking part in a CG-based train-the-trainer programme.

### Who should take part in a CG training?

- Individuals wishing to start work as teachers/ trainers of adults;
- Teachers and trainers of adults who have already some teaching experience but do not have had systematic training for this work.

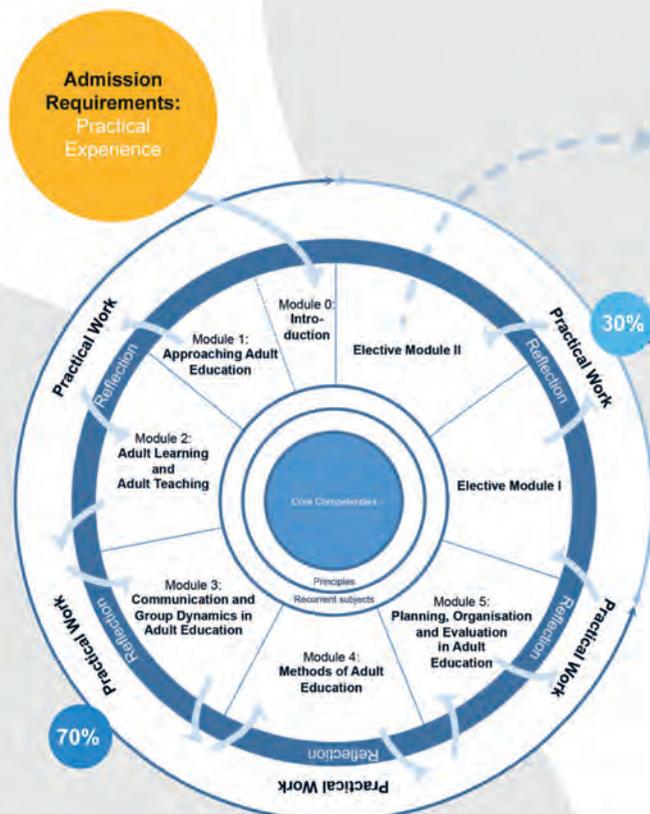
### For what areas of adult education exactly is the CG relevant?

CG provides for a generic pedagogical / andragogical qualification in teaching adults. It is relevant for all kinds of teachers/trainers of adults no matter what subject they teach or in what context they work.

Here are just a few examples of fields which may benefit from CG training: **adult literacy training // democracy education // community development // language classes for adults // cultural and arts education // vocational skills training.**



## Overview of the Curriculum globALE



Source: Curriculum globALE,  
2nd Edition, English version.

### Does CG cover the adult trainers' subject specialist competence?

CG trainings may include subject specific modules in the elective part. This depends on the provider offering the training.

The core modules of CG are generic in nature and do not focus particular teaching subjects. However, also the core part of any CG training will deal with real practices examples and cases, and these may be individually chosen from all kind of subject areas. CG trainings may thus be tailored to different needs of different participants.

### Central Features of CG

- Modularised curriculum;
- Competence orientation;
- Flexibility concerning implementation and PLA;
- Allowing adaptation to local needs.

### What does it contain?

- Introduction;
- Curriculum structured in five modules with description of learning outcomes/competences and key areas of study content;
- References;
- One fully elaborated course design as an example of practical curriculum implementation;
- Overview on relevant training curricula for adult educators in various countries.

### Piloting Curriculum globALE in Central Asia

In the period from 2013 to 2014, the programme was piloted in Uzbekistan in accordance with its content and structure. All modules were conducted by foreign experts, among whom, the lead trainer was Dr Katarina Popovich, Secretary-General of the International Council for Adult Education (ICAE). Students who successfully completed the entire training cycle (15 of 18 people) were awarded certificates of three levels („master-trainer“, „trainer“ and „trainer assistant“).

Adaptation of the programme to local conditions resulted in the addition of a number of special sessions, devoted to such topics as „Adult education in the national and global context“, „Origins of Adult education in Uzbekistan“ and some others.

The programme was completed with examination sessions in which each participant presented his/her mini-training to the members of the commission. Each examiner received recommendations for improving his further coaching activities. As a follow-up activity a round-table on the perspectives of the programme was held in Tashkent and collected further recommendations and future options for multiplying Curriculum globALE in the country.

From the end of 2013 to October 2015, all five modules were held in Bishkek for various AE stakeholders - representatives of the Ministry of Education

*Curriculum globALE was developed in cooperation with:*



German Institute for  
Adult Education  
Leibniz Centre for  
Lifelong Learning

**The German Institute for Adult Education – Leibniz Centre for Lifelong Learning (DIE)** is an extramural research institute as well as an infrastructural institution which serves as a competent service partner for all institutions in the field of adult education and lifelong learning. The institutes research activities contribute to the development and networking in adult education on a national and international scale. The DIE's socio-political focus is on the development and advancement of adult education in order to improve personal involvement, social participation and employability for the adult population in Germany.

*The DIE is a member of the Leibniz Association.*



*CG Training on Module 4. Tashkent, 2014.*



*CG Training on  
Module 3. Tashkent,  
2014.*

and Science, the Agency for Vocational Technical Education under the Ministry of Labour and Youth Employment, the Academy of Education, the National Scientific and Methodological Centre, as well as employees of vocational lyceums and trainers of adult education centres.

The trainings of the programme in Kyrgyzstan were attended by 63 people in total.

In Tajikistan, the Curriculum globALE programme was implemented in partnership with the German Society for international cooperation (GIZ) / GOPA from May 2015, when a two-stage ten-day training was held covering all the modules of the programme, except the fifth. Trainers were Dr Katarina Popovich, as well as two graduates of the CG programme from Uzbekistan. DVV International assisted in the selection of all trainers and provided financial support for their participation.

The target group was the engineering and pedagogical staff of primary vocational education and adult education structures, ready to multiply the programme.

In August 2015, at the request of local stakeholders, additional trainings on modules 4 and 5 were held for 20 people, and in summer 2016 - for another 27. In Tajikistan, the CG programme was attended by 91 people in total.



*CG Training on Module 4.  
Tashkent, 2014.*

According to the country's great interest in the CG programme, it was decided to fully implement it with the support of DVV International during 2018-2019 in cooperation with the Institute for re-training of teachers of Higher Educational Institutions.

## Central Asian Regional project on Youth promotion: Piloting the Curriculum on strengthening leadership skills and key competencies of young people



**Aim of the curriculum:** To promote leadership and strengthen certain key competencies of young people to make them able to be self-confident active citizens oriented on social development and changes.

**Format and duration of the curriculum:** Short-term periodic trainings (3-4 days each) within ca. 6 calendar months.

**Exchange form between the countries:** Online consultations during preparation work for the trainings, exchange of reporting information, online discussions of organisers after completion of the project. Developing joint recommendations for the implementation of the modules. Publications in social media.

### Amount and content of the curriculum:

**Module 0:**  
Acquaintance,  
team building, and  
diagnosis  
1 day  
(8 hours)

**Module 1:**  
Leadership and  
me, as a leader.  
3 days  
(24 hours)

**Module 2:**  
Effective communication,  
public speaking  
skills and mastering  
presentation  
4 days (32 hours)

**Module 3:**  
World of digital  
information.  
Media-literacy and  
-competence  
9 days (72  
hours)

**Implementing 9  
small-scale social  
projects**

**Module 5:**  
Social project  
management  
4 days (32 hours)

**Module 4:**  
Me and the  
surrounding world  
(politics, economy,  
identity, society)  
4 days  
(32 hours)

**In total: 25 days (approx. 200 hours).**

**After completion of the curriculum:**  
Demonstration, analysis and generalising the experience from implementing social projects. Final event for participants: discussion on Challenges of the youth today and ways for overcoming it.

## Implementation of the Regional Youth Project in Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan



**Regional Youth Project**  
#DVV International

**Main target group**  
of the project - 60 youth  
representatives in the age  
of 18-25 with Russian language  
skills, interested in learning,  
self-improvement and committed  
to non-violent communica-  
tion, aiming for the creative  
self-expression for the  
wealth of the society

**The overall  
objective of the  
project is to contribute  
to raising of civic engage-  
ment of youth and young  
adults aiming wellbeing  
of the societies in  
Central Asia.**

**Additional  
target group: 2-3  
non-formal education  
providers of 2 coun-  
tries (Kyrgyzstan and  
Tajikistan).**

**Total budget  
for 2 years:  
130.000, - Euro**

**The specific  
objective is to  
elaborate and pilot a  
comprehensive curriculum  
for the training of young  
leaders/activists in the three  
countries of Central Asia (Kyr-  
gyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbek-  
istan) and to promote  
regional networking.**



*Regional training on Module 4  
in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan 2017*

The Regional Youth project started in December 2016 with the selection of participants and the following implementation of the Module 0 in two locations in Kyrgyzstan - Bishkek and Osh, and one location in Tajikistan - Dushanbe.

This and the following two modules were organised in partnership with three local youth organisations: the Institute for Youth Development in Bishkek, Youth of Osh, and Youth House in Dushanbe. They also assisted participants in proposal writing and implementation of the small-scale social projects.



*Module 1 Training in Dushanbe, Tajikistan 2017*

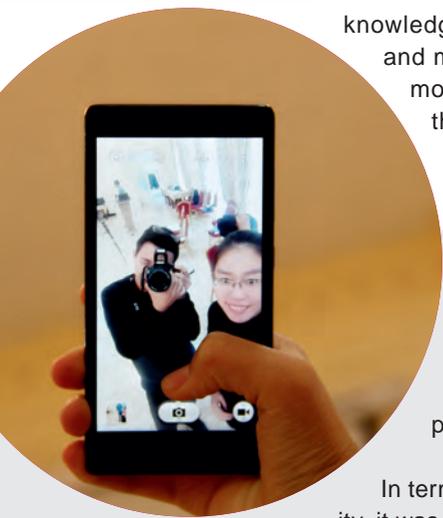
### Module 1

After completion of this module 60 young people gained knowledge in the field of the theory basics of leadership, developed leadership skills and are able to effectively integrate and use the knowledge and skills in their daily life, in youth communities in conditions of rapid changing environment. Module 1 was implemented in each of the locations separately by invited trainers and with the assistance of partner organisations.

*Module 2 Training in Dushanbe, Tajikistan 2017*



**Module 2** is aimed at developing skills of effective communication and public speaking. After the successful completion of the Module 2, youngsters obtained knowledge in the field of effective communication, developed skills in arguing their points of view, convince people, participate in discussions, and respect opinions of opponents. Now they are able to efficient integrate and use gained



*Regional training on Module 3, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan 2017*

knowledge and skills in daily life overcoming conflicts and misunderstanding problems. The training on this module was also conducted by invited trainers in the respective project locations separately.

**Module 3** was designed to transmit basics of media literacy and informational security. After the successful completion of this module, youngsters obtained knowledge on media literacy, developed critical skills of analysing incoming information and skills in using media space of their own content with the aim to solve social and personal problems or creative self-expression.

In terms of its relevance, internationalism and complexity, it was decided to involve international trainers with the relevant practical experience in implementing similar trainings. After a call for tenders, a group of experts from the non-governmental organisation Media Education Centre (Serbia) led by Mr. Miomir Rajcevic was selected. The training for 40 participants from all the three locations took place in March 2017 in Bishkek and included both theoretic and practical knowledge on orienting in the media space and creating and placing own media contents.

As the added value element, trainers from all the 3 partner organisations were invited in order to gain new knowledge in implementing media literacy trainings. After their arrival they implemented the training for the remained participants.

**Module 4** provided basic knowledge in the field of political, economical and social settings in the world, as well as in the field of global challenges - environmental, demographic, gender and others, which may serve as menace for further development of human beings. Participants of this module are able



*Regional training on Module 4. Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan*

to solve own problems and contribute to solving problems of the society, and know how to approach state bodies for problem solving or how to efficiently interact with other structures when necessary. They also can serve as positive change makers, promoting inter-cultural and international tolerance, environmental conscience, healthy lifestyle.

This module was implemented on the regional level in Bishkek with the participation of 40 participants from three locations by May 2017. In order to assure impartiality of the training on these sensitive topics for the region, the organisers engaged international Russian speaking trainers from the partner organisation MitOst e.V. (Berlin, Germany) led by Mr. Maxim Stepanow.

Also here, trainers from all the 3 partner organisations were invited for participating in the training in order to multiply gained knowledge and skills after their arrival for the rest of the participants.

*Regional training on Module 5 at the Lake Issyk-Kul, Kyrgyzstan*

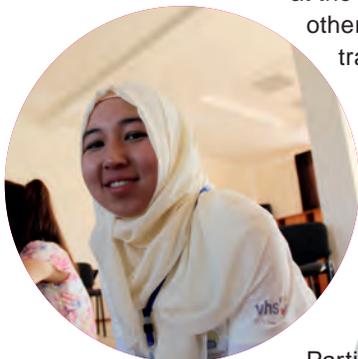


*Regional training on Module 4. Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan*

**Module 5** was designed to sum-up the previous modules' results. The objective of the the Module was to provide general principles of elaborating and managing projects, including social. Promote social entrepreneurship, engage youth in social business.

The training was organised for all the 60 participants of the project





*One of the participants of the regional training on Module 5 at the Lake Issyk-Kul', Kyrgyzstan*

at the lake Issyk-Kul' (Kyrgyzstan) to enable them to meet each other and contribute to team building and tolerance. The trainer team was composed of both international and local experts as well as multipliers from the three locations.

As the result of the training, participants obtained knowledge in the field of theoretic basics of social project management and social entrepreneurship. They developed their goal setting and goal achievement skills, based on efficient planning of activities and team facilitation.

Participants of this module were enabled to efficient integrate and use gained knowledge and skills not just in the framework of projects but in their daily life, youth and local communities in conditions of rapidly changing environment.

By the end of the training participants were divided into three initiative groups per location and elaborated their own small-scale social oriented project proposals. The organisers of the project as well as the partner organisations revised and provided recommendations on its improvements. Thus, by the end of August 2017 some of the initiative groups started implementation of their own projects.

### **Implementation of small-scale social oriented projects**

The idea to enable the initiative groups to implement their own projects was realised in order to provide participants with a platform to apply in practice knowledge and skills gained by the Curriculum. Each of the selected project was granted with 1.500,- EUR.



*Presentation of small-scale social oriented projects in Dushanbe (above) and in Bishkek (right). December 2017 and January 2018 respectively.*



## Capacity building of the NGO „SABR“ in Samarkand, Uzbekistan

The Cooperation with the NGO SABR began with small-scale projects each in 2013 and 2014. After its successful implementation and positive negotiations with the NGO staff, it was decided to extent activities on a long-term basis. The organisation started its activities in 1996, and defines itself as an NGO, advocating for the rights of women and children. SABR supports its target groups in crisis situations through psychological and legal advice, as well as by granting access to training offers.

In 2013, the partner organisation was funded to organise labour-market relevant vocational training for the socially disadvantaged from the Samarkand region (Urgut district). 57 women were given access to free of charge training on 3 professions. In 2014, cooperation in the same field continued and additional 40 women were trained.

The NGO has better conditions for financial sustainability compared to many other Uzbek civil society organisations – SABR has a subsidiary licensed as a micro-finance institution, which is operating successfully.



*Sewing training courses at the NGO „SABR“, Samarkand*

From 2015, a new approach has been developed for the next 3 years, which should not only provide vocational training for women in Samarkand and Samarkand region, but also legal and psychological counselling and personal development training. Another component of the cooperation was the further training of employees in the form of participation in international events in the field of adult education, training of trainers and organisational



*Presentation of the project outputs at the training centre, Samarkand*

development analysis, which was carried out by an invited expert from Germany. Over the course of the three-year cooperation, technical capacities of the NGO have also been built and offers for vocational training have been expanded. In total, over 500 participants were involved in the project activities between 2015-2017.

The concept for cooperation with the NGO SABR for the period after 2017 is currently being discussed with the partner organisation.

Total budget  
for the activities  
in 2015-2017:  
over 150.000, -  
Euro

*Organisational Diagnosis with the invited expert from Germany. Samarkand, 2016.*



*An-  
nouncing  
training  
courses at the  
NGO „SABR“*

## Long-term cooperation with the Centres of Culture and Leisure under the Ministry of Culture of Uzbekistan

In 2013, the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan adopted the resolution „On measures for the establishment of modern centres of culture and leisure of the population in 2013-2018“. According to this Resolution, by 2018, 894 Centres of culture and leisure of the population (hereinafter referred to as the Centres) should be established on the basis of 1,777 houses of culture and interest clubs. The Centres are currently mainly working in the field of culture and art, offering various trainings in music, singing and dancing (including participation in creative ensembles) to the local population (mainly schoolchildren and students), as well as mass cultural and entertainment activities for the general public (concerts, theatre performances, etc.).



*Location of the Kashkadarya region in Uzbekistan*

In addition to those functions that were formerly performed at the cultural centres and club institutions, the newly created Centres became new assigned responsibilities as „dissemination of modern cultural and educational services in demand by all segments of the population, establishment of Internet-studios, IT-courses and foreign languages“, as well as the “provision of a variety of demanded fee-based socio-cultural services to the population within the scope of the Centre’s capabilities“.



*Capacity building activities at the Centre in Kashkadarya region*

The fulfilment of these, relatively new functions - remains a difficult task for the staff of the Centres. The technical equipment of the Centre is insufficient - there is not enough modern audio, video and lighting equipment, computers, and equipment for conducting courses of various orientations.

In order to promote the development of the Culture and Leisure Centres of the population, DVV International in Uzbekistan and the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of

Total budget  
for the activities in  
2016-2017:  
ca. 120.000, -  
Euro

Uzbekistan signed a Memorandum of Cooperation by the end of 2015.

The joint activity is aimed at strengthening capacities of the Centres through acquaintance with contemporary approaches to management, increasing access of the population to a variety of cultural and educational services. Important tasks here are increasing the number and quality of events, training courses, interest clubs, as well as increasing the number of visitors of different target groups (disabled, elderly, unemployed youth, etc.).

In 2016, the first location for approbation of the project idea was selected in coordination with the Ministry of Culture – the Centre of Culture and Leisure of the population of the Namangan region. Within the framework of this project, the Centre carried out repairs of three premises allocated for the establishing training courses, and DVV International provided financial support for the acquisition of modern equipment (computers, sewing machines, photographic equipment, air conditioners, etc.) and training furniture (tables, chairs and boards, etc.), necessary for the organisation of effective learning.

As the result of this work, courses on sewing, decorative applied art, IT-literacy courses were introduced in the Centre.



*Building of  
the Centre in the  
Kashkadarya region in  
Uzbekistan*

In order to improve qualifications of the Centres' staff, the administration of the Centre itself and the neighbouring Centres, capacity building workshops were held on such topics as: „Modern requirements for the organisation and implementation of adult education“, „Features of management of a cultural and leisure institution“ and „Marketing of educational services“ with a coverage of more than 60 people.

In total, about 400 people (women and men, persons with disabilities) have completed various vocational training courses.

In 2017, DVV International expanded its cooperation with the Ministry of Culture by including a new Centre of Culture

and Leisure in the Kashkadarya region in its programme. Similar capacity building activities were held for the staff of the Centre, premises were renovated and free of charge demanded vocational courses were introduced for ca. 80 participants.

Furthermore, the project activities in 2016 included personal development trainings for 40 selected participants on the Curriculum on strengthening leadership skills and key competencies of young people.

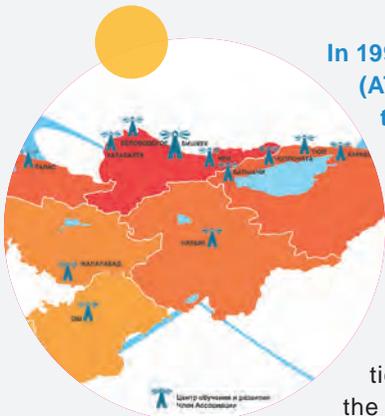


*Location of the Namangan region in Uzbekistan*



*Sewing training courses in the Centre in Namangan, Uzbekistan*

## Capacity building of Adult Training Centres in Kyrgyzstan



In 1997, an informal network of Adult Training Centres (ATCs) was established in Kyrgyzstan and was registered as the Kyrgyz Adult

Education Association (KAEA) in 2006. The Association now has 10 active members, providing adults with vocational and personal development training courses in the country.

Over the past 10 years, DVV International supported various capacity building activities of particular ATCs as well as macro level engagement of the Kyrgyz Adult Education Association. These actions include further training of the ATCs staff on networking, fundraising, Adult Education methods and approaches, technical support as well as the development of curricula and learning materials.

Overview map of ATCs in Kyrgyzstan.

Source: <http://kaea.kg/>

Moreover particular Centres representatives participate at regional and international conferences and forums, related to the promotion of Adult Education and Lifelong Learning.



This activity resulted in diversifying learning offers for the population in rural areas, expanding the international partner network and ensuring sustainability of the ATCs.

In the present, DVV International supports only particular capacity building activities for some of the Centres.

Capacity building activity for the KAEA-members, Kyrgyzstan 2014

## Providing policy advise on Adult Education and Lifelong Learning to governmental partners in Central Asia

Improving the framework conditions for adult education is one of our core tasks. Lobbying and advocacy for the human right of education and lifelong learning is carried out together with national, regional and global associations and adult education networks.



*Panel session during the Central Asian Adult Education Forum at Lake Issyk-Kul, September 2017*

We highlight the successes of adult education in a targeted way and we show their importance for development policy processes and the Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations. We promote the dialogue between civil society and state partners.

We emphasise our humanistic understanding of education and the power of education, which allows for broadly effective participation of wider population groups. We underpin our understanding of education as a public good and work towards further funding approval from the donor community and the governments of our partner countries.



*Participants of the RVA Workshop in Tashkent, December 2017.*

We carry out lobbying and advocacy for adult education through different channels: as part of our social structure-reinforcement projects, we engage through advice and support for state partners by involving civil society. In the Central Asian context we organise biannual national conferences on Adult Education and Lifelong Learning in order to draw public's attention to its importance for society and economic development of the countries.

We formulate political policy framework conditions through advice on laws and strategies for adult education. Thus, in Tajikistan, through a long-term activities on advising parliamentarians, in 2016 the Law on Adult Education was approved by the government of the

country. Another example are the on-going consultations of decision makers on benefits and introduction mechanism of an extended system of Recognition, Validation and Accreditation of prior learning in Uzbekistan. Pursuing this goal, we organise conferences, workshops and evaluations of the present system with the help of international experts and partner organisations.

We also support European and worldwide information and technical exchange through study tours to the countries with the best practices in the related field of intervention. In 2017 a group of decision makers and active civil society organisations from the region participated at an exchange visit to South Korea to demonstrate the best Asian experience in using benefits of institutionalised Lifelong Learning system for economic and social development.

For strengthening regional integration and cooperation in the field we conduct annual Adult Education Forums. In doing so, we reach back to our global project experience and our expertise (at macro and meso levels) worldwide.

Activities on the macro level sum up the impact chain of our engagement in the region, connecting both micro and meso level experiences and outcomes. The long-term objective here would be institutionalising and improving Adult Education and Lifelong Learning systems and approaches for coping with social and economic challenges in the societies of the three countries of the region.



*Presentation of Thekla Kelbert, Senior Desk Officer for Central Asia*



*Workshop on Korean Lifelong Learning System at the Seoul Metropolitan Institute for Lifelong Education (SMILE), November 2017.*

## Establishment of Education Coalitions in Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan



Asia South Pacific Association  
for Basic and Adult Education  
*Learning Beyond Boundaries*

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**The long-term cooperation of local Adult Education Associations, providers and stakeholders with the international organisation Asia South Pacific Association for Basic and Adult Education (ASPBAE) has been supported by DVV International over the past decade.**

In the course of the last two years, this cooperation resulted in the establishment of informal Education Coalitions in Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan, uniting civil society organisations (CSOs) and associations acting in various fields of education. Main objectives of the Education Coalitions are advocacy and lobbying of Life-long Education for All in the countries. As each of the countries has its own educational contexts, challenges and successes - goals, development and intervention strategies set by Coalitions vary.

**The Education Coalition in Kyrgyzstan** was established in the beginning of 2016 and gathered 10 local CSOs dealing with adult education, youth and women empowerment, vocational training and education advocacy. The cooperation started with participation of the Coalition members at the capacity building workshop on Education Policy Advocacy in Manila, Philippines in January 2016. Further on, in May 2016 the workshop on strategy development was conducted for all the Coalition members in Bishkek by an ASPBAE expert. As the result, the Action plan for 2016-2018 was elaborated and agreed. This includes capacity building activities for the Coalition, education budget analysis as well as elaboration of the alternative education budget as the lobbying activity. As one of the main activities in the country in September 2017 the National Forum on "Public education quality monitoring" was held.



*Discussion round at the National Forum on "Public education quality monitoring", Kyrgyzstan 2017*

**The Education Coalition in Tajikistan** emerged in the end of August 2017 as the result of the Coalition strengthening

workshop held in Dushanbe for the future Coalition members. The sessions included concept setting, prioritising national-level education issues, and developing action plans. During the workshop participants identified priority education issues in the country. The four main areas identified were access and inclusion in education, quality education, budgeting in education, governance and management. According to the fields of involvement the Coalition drafted their goals and identified policy targets:

1. Promote the Right to Education in the country and advocate for the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goal 4.
2. Push for civil society engagement to increase the education budget and ensure its proper implementation.
3. Advocate to improve the quality of education in Tajikistan.
4. Strengthen the Coalition as an institution of education advocacy.

At the end of the workshop, a detailed plan of action till 2018 was developed. As the follow-up activity, in 2017 the group conducted a strategic planning workshop to develop the vision and mission of the Coalition.

Also, in September 2017 a member of the Tajik Education Coalition was co-opted into the Executive Council of ASPBAE to better inform Central Asian Education Coalition on its perspectives and to provide them with a voice within the organisation.



Source: <https://en.unesco.org/sdgs>

Coalition member during the Coalition strengthening workshop, August 2017.



## INCLUSION: Promotion of Social Change and Inclusive Education in Tajikistan



The overall objective of the project is to contribute to social development, accountability and inclusive policy making in Tajikistan through strengthening of local CSOs/ their networks and promotion of their interaction with selected governmental/public structures on behalf of vulnerable social groups of the society. A particular emphasis will lie on people with disabilities (PwD).

The specific objective of the 2,5-year action, which is about to be launched in April 2018, is to strengthen two local CSOs (representing national networks) in order to enable them to contribute to an improved environment for more inclusive, responsive and transparent social policies, as well as bettered access to quality vocational and non-formal education services for youth with disabilities (YwD) in Rasht, Penjikent and Dushanbe cities of Tajikistan. The overall budget of the project will be ca. 690.000,- Euro including the BMZ contribution of 10%.

### Target groups

- Adult Education Association of Tajikistan and its 18 members (grass-root educational CSOs);
- League of Women with Disabilities “Ishtirok” and its 14 members (disabled people’s organizations and initiative groups);
- The network of Adult Training Centres (ATCs) under the Ministry of Labour, Employment and Migration with over 36 branches throughout the country;
- Local governments of Rasht and Penjikent districts.

The final beneficiaries will be over 10,000 youth with physical disabilities and light mental disabilities at the age of 15-29, who will benefit from a better quality TVET services and non-formal education to be better integrated into the local labour market through improved vocational skills.

### Expected results

1. Youth with Disabilities benefited from quality vocational and non-formal education services and are engaged in income-generating activities
2. The National and local environment for inclusive TVET is improved.
3. CSO networks are strengthened to apply independent monitoring tools.



## YES to Change: Youth Empowerment toward Sustainability and Change



The Badakhshan Region is one of the poorest regions of Tajikistan. Lack of infrastructure, unemployment and social tensions mark the region. DVV International works with young people locally to promote social commitment, open up perspectives for a professional career and to indicate ways into self-employment.

The Badakhshan Region is a hard-to-reach mountain region in the Pamir Mountains in the east of Tajikistan. The local communities are mostly separated by high mountain ridges. There are only a few badly built roads. Landslides and avalanches are common occurrences. Therefore, stable social and economic networks could hardly develop in the region. Some of the consequences of these difficult conditions are poverty and high unemployment. Many people in the Badakhshan Region live in absolute and extreme poverty. That is why about 30 percent of the able-to-work population leave the region to become migrant workers. There are also recurring political tensions between loyalists and opponents of the Tajik government, which shows that not all the wounds from the civil war of the 1990s have healed yet.



*Fayoz Nosirov (middle) from a small village in the district of Shugnon learned the carpentry trade from his father. Following the training for young entrepreneurs, he received a grant to invest in a workshop building and its equipment. "This project has significantly changed my family situation. This is the first year that I decided not to go to work in Russia, because that would have meant leaving my elderly father and my five sisters alone. I think business will be even better when the construction season starts."*

DVV International meets the problems of the region with the potential inherent in adult education. Supported by the EU "Peace Building Partnership Programme" and co-funding from the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), the Institute launched the "YES to Change" (Youth Empowerment Towards Sustainability and Change) project in 2015, which continues through to the beginning of 2018. The project is aimed at young people throughout the Badakhshan Region and has three objectives: to promote political dialogue and social commitment, to improve the career prospects of young people and to help them to become self-reliant through their own business ideas.

### Facilitate political dialogue and participation

In order to foster political dialogue, young people, during training, were made familiar with various aspects of civic engage-



ment. With this knowledge, they formed debating clubs for young people in cooperation with local civil society organisations throughout the region, especially the project partner NGO „Kalam“. In these clubs, young people identify local challenges and subsequently discuss them with local politicians as well as with representatives of the private sector. Together, they work out solutions, some of which are financially subsidised and implemented by the project.

### Create career prospects

In order to improve access to high-quality vocational education and training in the remote areas of the Badakhshan Region, the regional branch of the National Adult Training Centre, with the support of DVV International, has introduced courses in four vocational professions. Based on an analysis of the local market for labour and training, formal training courses certified by the Tajik Ministry of Labour are being offered in the fields of welding, gardening, electrical repair and accounting.

In order to be able to offer the courses throughout the region, even in remote villages, mobile course modules were developed and necessary equipment provided. It contains hardware and teaching materials adapted to the respective course contents. In addition, two off-road vehicles were purchased to transport the equipment.

### Helping young entrepreneurs

With the aim of supporting young people in setting up businesses, DVV International, together with the local non-governmental organisation Madina, offered courses on the founding and management of a business. The 420 participants were also advised on particularly promising business initiatives based on an analysis of needs throughout the region. In 2016, 25 particularly promising local start-ups received start-up grants in order to be able to finance the setting up and operation of their business.



Visiting small-scale social project site in the Roshtqala region. GBAO, May 2017.



*Tojiniso Abdullalishoeva (left) from Roshtq'ala received a start-up grant from the project, which she has invested in animal husbandry. "We now have work, income and food. Goat's milk is quite expensive and the demand is high in our region. The ten goats I bought with the project will soon become 50. Imagine what this will mean for us! Milk, meat and a decent budget for our family."*



## SECRET: Social, Economic and Cultural Rights of Prisoners and Ex-prisoners in Tajikistan

Worldwide, people in prison belong to the most disadvantaged population groups. DVV International has been committed to improving the educational opportunities of prisoners in various countries for over 15 years. In Tajikistan, DVV International has been implementing the project SECRET from February 2014 to January 2016 with a total budget of roughly 400.000 EUR. The project was funded by the European Union (75%) and the German Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (25%).



*Participant during a train of trainer course in a tajik female prison*

SECRET was a two-year project which was aimed at the realisation of social, economic and cultural rights for female prisoners through their greater involvement in learning and production activities within the prison, and for ex-prisoners of both genders through providing legal and psychological consultations, personal development trainings and professional orientation consultations for the social re-integration groups.

It contributed to the development and consolidation of democracy and the rule of law and fundamental freedoms in Tajikistan by increasing access to education and personal development for female prisoners and ex-prisoners of both genders.

The specific objective of the project was to expand access to and availability of education for the female prisoners in Nurek and ex-prisoners of both genders in Dushanbe, Khorog, Khujand and Kurgan-tube cities. Activities comprised of vocational and other training courses offered for prisoners (including the provision of the material basis for these trainings), services of 5 reintegration desks for ex-prisoners, trainings targeting staff of the penal system, surveys, round-tables, networking and visibility events.

### Target groups

- 150 female from the Nurek penal institution;
- About 600 ex-prisoners in 4 cities;
- 20 trainers and instructors, who will teach in prisons;



- 20 prison (15) and penalty execution department (5) staff.

The final beneficiaries of the action were families of female prisoners and ex-prisoners, future prisoners, state bodies of the penal system (Main Department of Penalty Execution of the Ministry of Justice, prisons), Ministry of Labour, network of adult training centres, broad public.



*Seminar during for female detainees in the Nurek prison. Tajikistan 2014*

### Results of the project

1. Human and technical capacity for implementation of educational activities of female prison #3 in Nurek and Penal Execution Department staff strengthened;
2. Short-term educational offers for prisoners and ex-prisoners expanded and access to consultation services increased;
3. Public awareness on realisation of social, economic and cultural rights of prisoners and ex-prisoners improved.

*„The projects objectives were highly relevant and at the same time realistic and attainable. The relevance of the projects' approach was reflected from different angles. The project made a contribution in the context of the prison reform debate in Tajikistan as activities and outcomes are in line with the international standards on the treatment of prisoners.*

*It is further on in line with the aims of the European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights and the main aims of the funding provided by the German Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development as it contributes to poverty reduction.“*

*An excerpt from the Final Evaluation Report, implemented by international expert Britta Schweighöfer*



## Human Rights Protection for Prisoners and Ex-Prisoners in Tajikistan

The action aims to help detainees and former detainees in Tajikistan to exercise their social, economic and cultural rights through expanding their access to non-formal education activities (vocational, civic and cultural) as well as to legal support and consultations.

The project also supports networking and cooperation between CSOs and national/local public institutions responsible for reintegration of ex-prisoners, aiming to increase availability and quality of services provided by them for this particular group.

*Opening event of the project held in Dushanbe in April 2017*

The two-year project, which started in April 2017, is being implemented by the Institute for International Cooperation of the German Adult Education Association (DVV International) together with two local partners – NGOs „Bureau on Human Rights and Rule of Law“ and „Jahon“ both based in Dushanbe city.

The project with the overall budget of 540.000,- Euro is funded by the European Commission (75%) and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ, 25%). The action covers 450 prisoners at the penal institutions #3/8 in Nurek town and #3/6 in Yavan town, as well as over 800 ex-prisoners in 10 cities and district centres of Tajikistan, including Dushanbe, Khorog, Khujand, Kurgantube, Vahdat, B. Gafurov, Vose, Panjakent, Devachtich, and Jaihun.

### Target groups

- 150 female prisoners from the Nurek penal institution;
- 300 male prisoners from Yavan penal institution;
- Over 800 ex-prisoners in 10 cities;
- 250 district police officers from 10 cities;
- 20 prison staff from 15 penal institutions and MDPE;



- 10 regional employment agency staff; and
- 20 legal aid centres and Bureau on Human Rights and Rule of Law (BHR) and NGO Jahon staff

### Main activities

In the framework of the project, access and availability to educational offers are being improved for female prisoners in Nurek and for male prisoners in Yavan. They explore ways to earn their own income and to reintegrate themselves into society after imprisonment. A further objective is to sensitise both state institutions and the general public to the rights of prisoners and ex-prisoners, thus creating an enabling environment for their reintegration.

In addition, the legal support and counselling for former prisoners are being improved. This will be achieved by the expansion and bettering of social reintegration referral mechanisms between civil society organisations and national as well as local public institutions. In the future, prisoners and former prisoners will be able to be systematically referred to social services, free legal aid centres and crisis centres in order to obtain appropriate professional legal advice and social assistance. To achieve this, in ten cities, all the actors involved, including district police officers, penal institution staff, as well as employees of legal support centres and the employment department, are receiving training in special seminars.

### Expected results

1. Short-term educational offers for prisoners expanded and access to consultation services for ex-prisoners are increased;
2. Professional capacity of penal and MDPE staff is enhanced;
3. National enabling environment on protection of social, economic and cultural rights of ex-prisoners is improved and sustained;
4. Public awareness on realisation of social, economic and cultural rights of prisoners and ex-prisoners is increased.



*Training of trainers on interactive training methodology for penal staff in Yavan, Dushanbe, February 2018*



*Social Reintegration Roadmap For Ex-prisoners published in the frame of the Action*



## Returning PATH: Promoting Access To basic Human rights for vulnerable women and men

The overall objective of the project is to contribute to the protection and promotion of social, economic and cultural rights of vulnerable groups of both genders (ex-prisoners, illicit drug users, persons living with HIV, TB-patients).

Specific objective of the action is to enhance the delivery of effective and qualitative social services to vulnerable groups of population through establishment of the efficient National Social Support Centre (NSSC).

This project was launched in January 2016 and will be implemented until April 2018. The overall budget of the action is approx 410.000,- Euro with 5% contribution of the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development. The local partner of the project is the NGO „INTILISH“.

### The project contributes to:

- Forming tolerant attitude towards ex-prisoners, people addicted to illicit drugs, people living with HIV infection and TB-patients;
- Restoring the social relationships; acquiring (self-)employment through vocational education;
- Forming sustainable motivation for searching a place in the society;
- Involving of representatives of governmental bodies, civil society organisations to participate in solving problems of the target groups.

Within the project, visitors are being provided with free of charge legal consultations, psychological and medical care (including referring to the related medical specialist). In addition, the comprehensive social guidance programme is being offered to the most motivated visitors. This includes not only obligatory consultations, but also the opportunity to participate in vocational education courses (1 free of charge course out of 5-7 programmes with the duration of 1-2 months), gain knowl-



*Opening ceremony of the NSSC by the Head of the EU Delegation Yuri Sterk and the Ambassador of Germany Neithart Höfer-Wissing. Tashkent, June 2016*



*Door sign in front of the established National Social Support Centre in Tashkent, 2016*



edge and skills, medical and other services (such as access to the Internet and social media).

Project activities also include organisation of round-tables, workshops and work meetings for the stakeholders as governmental agencies, local self-governing authorities, NGOs and non-governmental educational organisations, in order to better coordinate joint efforts and ideas.



*Vocational courses within the framework of the project at the Training and Re-Training Centre of the city administration in Tashkent.*

### Target groups, covered by the project are as follows:

- At least 1.200 vulnerable women and men in the target region – ex-prisoners, illicit drug users, persons living with HIV, TB-patients;
- 8 employees of the established NSSC within the NGO “INTILISH”;
- 220 staff members of various stakeholders as Centres of social adaptation at local administrations, representatives of local self-governing bodies, Women Committee, mass media in Tashkent.

### The expected results of the project:

- Pilot NSSC is established, equipped, and well-functioning (comprehensive capacity building is provided; efficient institutional management system and the respective software are elaborated and introduced; services are developed, introduced and standardised).
- Expanded access for the vulnerable target groups to qualitative social services of established Centre is ensured and concept for further replication and dissemination is elaborated and presented.
- Partnership mechanism(s) with other stakeholders and favourable environment around the newly established institutions are created and promoted.



*Psychological consultations at the NSSC of the NGO „INTILISH“*



## Democracy and Religion: Dialogue between Equal And Moderate voices (DREAM)



*One of the multipliers during the media training in Bishkek, July 2017*

The project is aimed at fostering a cohesive, democratic society in Kyrgyzstan through involving and strengthening various stakeholders, especially youth actors, in the prevention of radicalisation and the mitigation of existing tensions.

The project, which is being implemented by the Institute for International Cooperation of the German Adult Education Association (DVV International) together with two local partners – “Youth of Osh” and the “Institute for Youth Development” from March 2017 until April 2019, strives to achieve the following Specific objectives:

**No. 1**  
Variety of discussion platforms dedicated to freedom of religion and diversity, reaching out to various society groups, are initiated and expanded, professionalism of media to broadcast on sensitive issues is strengthened.

**No. 2**  
Capacity of Youth Councils (YC) of Local Crime Prevention Centres (LCPC) for community security dialogue is strengthened, specific measures are implemented.

**No. 3**  
Youth from urban and rural areas is empowered for active life position, citizenship and resilience against destructive ideologies.

### Target groups

The direct target group includes about 1,300 people from media, schoolchildren - participants in the television intellectual game, participants of television talk shows, members of the youth councils at the LCPCs, youth creative groups, parents, teachers, experts.

### Project activities

The project's activities are aimed at maintaining a cohesive democratic society in Kyrgyzstan through strengthening the capacity of various stakeholders, especially youth actors in the prevention of adherence to extreme views and the mitigation of existing tensions.

The project will be implemented in 14 urban and rural locations in Kyrgyzstan in three main fields of action: (i) establishment



of various discussion platforms for elaboration on issues of religion and democracy; (ii) strengthening youth councils at Local Crime Prevention Centres (LCPC); (iii) establishment and support of youth creative groups in youth houses and youth centres, as well as supporting youth initiatives.

Within the project trainings for journalists, launch of a new intellectual game for senior school-children, the talk show „Free Dialogue“ and the radio programme „Questions and Answers“ will be organised. Within the framework of strengthening potential of the Youth Councils at LCPCs, it is planned to train the members of the Youth Councils on basics of the interactive methodology „Simulation Game“ and support the implementation of their own project initiatives in all project locations.

In addition, the project will support youth creative groups established within the project in preparation of media products, gathering and publication of life stories on the topic of the project and staging of performances.

In order to effectively implement the project, actively involve stakeholders and ensure their contribution to it's implementation, Project Steering Committees for the northern and southern regions of the country have been established.

The results of the project will be presented and discussed at two National Forums and the Conference of the Project Closing Ceremony.

### Main stakeholders of the project

- Foundation for the Development of Spiritual Culture „Yiman“;
- State Agency for Youth, Physical Culture and Sports under the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic;
- The State Commission for Religious Affairs of the Kyrgyz Republic;
- Ministry of Education and Science of the Kyrgyz Republic;
- The Service for Combating Extremism and Illegal Migration under the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Kyrgyz Republic;
- Spiritual Department of Muslims of the Kyrgyz Republic.



*Discussions during the workshop for multipliers. Bishkek, March 2017*

Overall budget of the project: 860.000,- EUR  
BMZ contribution to the action: 20%



## Promotion of Ethnic Equality and Civic Engagement (PEACE)



*“We’re diverse. We’re equal.”*

This project, implemented from 2014 to 2016 was aimed at decrease of inter-ethnic and inter-religious tensions in Kyrgyzstan and strengthen peace potential in Kyrgyzstan through Enhancement of two youth NGOs capacities to unite young people for articulation of own problems

and playing an active role in life and development of the country.



ИНСТИТУТ  
РАЗВИТИЯ  
МОЛОДЕЖИ

The project, was implemented by DVV International in cooperation with two local NGOs - “Institute for Youth Development” and “Youth of Osh”.



### Target groups

At least 500 youth activists, representatives of different ethnic groups at the age of 15-24 from Osh, Jalalabat, Batken, Chui regions of Kyrgyzstan and Bishkek city.

### Project activities

Young people with various interests (graffiti, hip-hop music, photography, journalism, blogging, dancing, etc.) were united into 25 various creative groups and were working together on creating informational and educational materials/ products, promoting peace and tolerance, inter-cultural communication, civic responsibility and presented them to wide public through social videos, TV bridges, flash-mobs, festivals, forums, exhibitions, organised in the cities and rural areas of the country.



*Participating at the multi-cultural festival in Belovodsk, Kyrgyzstan 2015*

The project activities were presented through regular information reels, newsletters, websites, press-conferences, leaflets.

Trainings on developing project proposals, fundraising, diversity management, conflict prevention, personal development and civic engagement were organised for leaders of youth



organisations within the project.

The group of youth leaders – creative groups’ members, journalists, representatives of partner organisations were acquainted with DVV International experience in peace building and reconciliation in Georgia and Armenia during a Study Tour to Caucasus within the frame of the Action.

### Partners and stakeholders

- Ministry of Culture, Information and Tourism of the Kyrgyz Republic
- Ministry of Labour, Migration and Youth of the Kyrgyz Republic; Osh, Jalal-Abad and Batken regional departments.
- Authorized Representative office of the Government in Osh region, Social monitoring and development Department
- Jalalabat city Administration
- Batken State University
- Youth Centre of Jalalabat city
- Jalalabat, Osh and Batken city Education Department
- Youth Committee of Osh city Administration
- Regional Public Television and Radio Company «Yntymak»

### Results of the project

1. Organisational capacities of two youth NGOs including their peace-building and conflict prevention abilities are enhanced and the network of partner organisations strengthened.
2. At least 500 young people are empowered to play an active role in public, social and cultural life of their communities and the country, structured dialogue between youth, their organisations and local/regional/national authorities on tolerance, civic integration, peace, youth policy etc. is fostered.
3. Awareness of the Kyrgyz society on tolerance/civic integration issues is raised.



*Flash-mob activity during a Festival of cultures in Osh, December 2014*



*A meeting during the Study tour to Georgia, November 2014*

Overall budget of the project: 500.000,- EUR  
BMZ contribution to the action: 20%





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