



Osh city administration



Public Foundation "IRET"



Office of Plenipotentiary representative of the Kyrgyz Republic Government in Osh province



Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe Centre in Bishkek



Office of Plenipotentiary representative of the Kyrgyz Republic Government in Jalal-Abad province



Public Foundation "Aimira"



Office of Plenipotentiary representative of the Kyrgyz Republic Government in Chuy province



Public Association of Rural Women "Alga"

Fact sheet

Project "Developing the Capacity of the Public-Private Network of "Yntymak Jarchylary" (Peace Ambassadors) in Osh City, and Osh, Jalal-Abad and Chuy Provinces"

Bishkek, 18 March 2013

Project: "Developing the Capacity of the Public-Private Network of "Yntymak Jarchylary" (Peace Ambassadors) in Osh City, and Osh, Jalal-Abad and Chuy Provinces".

Partners: Public Foundation "IRET", Public Foundation "Aimira", Public Association "Alga", City Administration of Osh city, Offices of Plenipotentiary Government Representatives of Osh, Jalal-Abad and Chuy provinces.

Beneficiaries: Communities and local authorities of Osh city, Osh, Jalal-Abad and Chuy provinces.

Project objective: Assisting communities and local authorities of Osh city, Osh, Jalal-Abad and Chuy provinces in identifying and responding to potential conflicts through establishing and raising capacity of "Yntymak Jarchylary" network.

Background information about "Yntymak Jarchylary":

"Yntymak Jarchylary" are people who assist parties engaged in a conflict in finding a mutually acceptable solution in local disputes. "Yntymak Jarchylary" can work in teams or individually. Each team is responsible for the corresponding administrative area where it is based (district or a city of province administration). The team members are highly respected and known local community leaders who have traditionally always been called upon to resolve conflicts within their communities. The teams established within the project have two main tasks:

- Conduct conflict analysis and identify potential tensions within their local community, and to proactively work with representatives of civil society and the government to address such tensions through dialogue facilitation
- Co-operate with law enforcement and other authorities when resolving conflicts in emergency situations on an operational level

The established teams of "Yntymak Jarchylary" are seen as a "bridge" in a variety of aspects, not only between different ethnic and age groups but also between the public and government authorities. While in general their activities are directed by the authorities, "Yntymak Jarchylary" enjoy autonomy in implementing the relevant activities. The "Yntymak Jarchylary" teams can be addressed by any member of the community for helping resolve conflicts.

Project activities and expected outcomes:

1. Selection of "Yntymak Jarchylary"

Thirty-four teams (each consisting of 22 people), comprising a total of 748 members, were formed in Osh city, Osh, Jalal-Abad and Chuy provinces in 2011-2012. "Yntymak Jarchylary" were selected through joint efforts of corresponding authorities and civil society partners in agreement with the law enforcement bodies and with support of OSCE. The selection criteria were based on many factors, including the authority of the candidates in their communities, their ethnic background, age, gender and religion, in order to establish balanced teams reflecting the communities they represent. Usually, each team is comprised of 50% from government employees.

2. Training of "Yntymak Jarchylary"

Over the course of 2011, several trainings of trainers were conducted for the teams in the south by an international consultant on key technical skills related to the two aforementioned tasks that "Yntymak Jarchylary" carry out. The trained trainers subsequently held trainings in their teams. Similar approach was applied in 2012 when the newly established teams of Chuy province were trained the basic skills on dealing with conflicts, while the capacity of the teams established in 2011 was raised through additional trainings.

In 2013 the capacity of all teams will be raised through trainings organized by a specially recruited international expert who also worked with the “Yntymak Jarchyлары” teams in 2011 in Osh City and Osh and Jalal-Abad Provinces. There will also be two local training consultants who will provide assistance both to the international expert during such trainings.

3. Simulation exercises

In 2012, 25 crisis simulation exercises in total were organized for the “Yntymak Jarchyлары” teams based in the Osh city, Osh and Jalal-Abad. The simulation exercises were organized and conducted jointly by a local security consultant in partnership with the law enforcement bodies and project partners.

In 2013, inter-district simulation exercises will be held for the south-based teams. Chuy province teams will take part in simulation exercises planned at district / local level. Two local security consultants will be responsible for conducting the conflict outbreak simulation exercises. Members of “Yntymak Jarchyлары” teams and representatives of local authorities, including the law enforcement bodies, will participate in the simulation exercises. Thus, in total, 35 simulation exercises are planned, with one exercise taking place in each of the geographic areas where the “Yntymak Jarchyлары” teams are based, along with one larger simulation exercise involving local authorities and all eight teams based in Osh City taking place as well.

4. Conflict prevention activities

After the “Yntymak Jarchyлары” teams had received trainings in 2011-2012, they began to conduct round table discussions that were designed to facilitate dialogue in their communities to address major issues and sources of conflict, and to identify ways to mitigate the likelihood that such problems could lead to conflict. Some of the established teams participated in direct mediation of conflict situations. Such activities were funded by the OSCE through “mini-grants”. In 2013, such activities will continue to be supported for “Yntymak Jarchyлары” teams both to continue to identify sources of tensions within their own communities, and to jointly conduct activities with “Yntymak Jarchyлары” teams from neighboring areas where inter-district tensions exist.

In 2011-2012, a special security consultant developed a code of ethics as well as a working concept of joint operational activity of “Yntymak Jarchyлары” with law enforcement bodies during emergency situations. In 2013, the special security consultants, who will also be engaged in organizing and conducting the simulation exercises, will continue to work with the “Yntymak Zharchyлары” teams in order to ensure that the teams will be operationally prepared to work with government authorities in crisis situations.

5. Regulations on activity of “Yntymak Jarchyлары”

In 2013, adopting a Regulation on the work of the “Yntymak Jarchyлары” teams is being discussed jointly with the Prime-Minister’s Office in co-ordination with the Parliament’s Committee on Defense and Security, which would grant “Yntymak Jarchyлары” teams official status on the city and province level. Neither the “Yntymak Jarchyлары”, nor the officials participating in the project receive salary. The ownership of the established teams will be fully vested in the respective government bodies upon the finalization of the project (the city administration of Osh city and the respective state province administrations) under the overall co-ordination on behalf of the Prime-Minister’s Office.

6. Raising public awareness about the activities of “Yntymak Jarchyлары” and networking

In 2013 a number of activities will be held to raise public awareness about the “Yntymak Jarchyлары” teams and their work. These activities will include creation of video-materials as well as preparation and publication of a book describing the project, which will be done with the assistance of a documentalist consultant that will be employed by CiB.

In 2013-2014 the members of “Yntymak Jarchyлары” teams and the relevant representatives of local authorities and law enforcement bodies will receive mobile phones for their use. The mobile phones could be used for the free of charge communication with each other in order to improve the intra-network links as well as exchange information in crisis situations.