



**STATE PROGRAMME ON POVERTY REDUCTION AND
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (SPPRSD)
MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS (MDGs)**



**REGIONAL WORKSHOPS
2006**



The Report published with the financial support from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is about regional workshops held with the local civil society in Ganja, Lankaran and Guba for 2006 and overall participation process organized in preparation of the “State Programme on poverty reduction and sustainable development in the Republic of Azerbaijan for 2006-2015”.



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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Acronyms-----	3
Introduction-----	4
Next stage on poverty reduction: SPPRSD and MDGs-----	6
SPPRSD and participatory process-----	8
Regional workshops-----	10
Participating agencies-----	13
Coverage-----	13
Proposals of civil society-----	14
Guba Regional Workshop-----	16
Lankaran Regional Workshop-----	19
Ganja Regional Workshop-----	22

ACRONYMS

ADB	Asian Development Bank
ACDRTRC	Azerbaijan Community Development, Research, Training and Resource Center
MDG	Millennium Development Goals
NGO	Non-government organization
SWG	Sector Working Groups
SPPRED	State Programme on Poverty Reduction and Economic Development
SPPRSD	State Programme on Poverty Reduction and Sustainable Development
UN	United Nations
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
WB	World Bank

Introduction

Poverty is one of the main problems currently facing mankind. According to the World Bank, at the beginning of the XXI century 2.8 billion of the world's population was living on less than 2 USD per day, and 1.2 billion people on less than 1 USD per day; for every 100 newborn infants, 6 died before they reached one year and 8 before they reached 5 years, 23 out of every 100 school-aged children had no access to education; 3/5 of the 4.4 billion people living in developing countries had no access to normal sanitation, 1/4 to normal housing conditions, 1/3 to regular water supply and 1/5 to adequate nutrition.

In order to tackle poverty on a global level, the heads of 147 world countries joined together at the UN Millennium Summit in New York in September 2000 to sign the Millennium Declaration and committed themselves to achieving poverty reduction by 2015. In order to meet the challenges set out in the Declaration, a set of 8 global Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) were formulated, with 18 targets and 48 indicators, the first of which is to halve the number of the world's population living in extreme poverty and hunger by 2015. National leader Heydar Aliyev signed the Millennium Declaration on behalf of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

In order to honor this commitment in line with the local conditions in Azerbaijan, which is one of the signatories of Millennium Declaration, the President of the Republic issued a Decree "On Establishment of the Commission to prepare the State Program on Poverty Reduction in Azerbaijan" on March 2, 2001. In accordance with the Decree, a State Commission headed by the Prime Minister was established. The Ministry of Economic Development was given the task of coordinating the formulation of the Program. The Program's Secretariat was



Combating poverty is one of the main priorities for us. Policies are carried out in this direction, and the level of poverty decreases year by year in Azerbaijan... From this viewpoint, we should work in close collaboration with international organizations. There should not be any poor people in Azerbaijan.

*Ilham Aliyev
President of Republic of Azerbaijan*

Our task is to strengthen the struggle against poverty, reduce and in future completely eliminate poverty in Azerbaijan

*Heydar Aliyev
National Leader of Azerbaijan*

established under the Ministry of Economic Development, and sector working groups (SWGs) were set up within the relevant line ministries.

The formulation phase was divided into two main stages: preparation of the Interim and then the Final Paper. Both stages were characterized by broad participatory processes and discussion of the State Program with the international financial institutions. The State Program on Poverty Reduction and Economic Development for 2003-2005 (SPPRED) was presented to the broader public at the national Conference held in Baku on 25th of October 2002, which was chaired by the head of the state and attended by representatives of international organizations, central executive agencies, as well as civil society organizations and received final approval with the Presidential Decree # 854 of February 20, 2003.

During the implementation period of the “State Programme on poverty reduction and economic development in the Republic of Azerbaijan (2003-2005)”, a number of important measures were taken to improve living standards of the citizens and to ensure social protection of the population. Thus, as a result of activities undertaken in all spheres of the economy, as well as, those aimed at development of regions, the following progress was achieved during that period: i) average annual growth rate of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) was 26.4%; ii) growth rate of the per capita GDP increased by 2 times; iii) minimum salaries increased by 5.5 times; iv) pensions increased by 2.2 times; v) a targeted social assistance system was introduced; vi) more than 340000 jobs were created; vii) poverty level decreased from 46.7% to 29.3%; viii) living standards of the population were substantially improved.



DECREE

of the

President of the Republic of Azerbaijan

on preparation of “State Programme on Poverty Reduction and Sustainable Development in the Republic of Azerbaijan (2006-2015)”

Ilham Aliyev
The President of the Republic of Azerbaijan
20 June 2005, Baku city
853

Elimination of poverty in society requires creation of such a democratic space that people could put forward their demands for more fair distribution of power, act together and struggle.

*2003, Azerbaijan,
Human Development Report, UNDP*

Next stage on poverty reduction: SPPRS and MDGs

In order to continue the positive trends achieved in improving the population's welfare, the formulation process of the "State Program on Poverty Reduction and Sustainable Development in the Republic of Azerbaijan for 2006-2015" (SPPRS) was begun in accordance with the Order of Mr. Ilham Aliyev, the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan of June 20, 2005. The State Commission and sector working groups were re-established to work on the formulation of the new Program. The priority areas, targets and policy measures for poverty reduction and sustainable development were determined and included to the new State Program on the basis of a broad discussion process involving the SPPRED Secretariat under the Ministry of Economic Development, sector working groups and civil society. In the preparation process the State Program was also shared with the international development partners for their comments, and also to ensure alignment of their country assistance programs with the new State Program.

The above summary of the main characteristics of the poverty situation in the country provides the basis for the formulation of the following nine strategic goals for the SPPRS for 2006-2015. These goals should also be seen as a logical continuation of the previous poverty reduction program (SPPRED):

- (i) maintaining macro-economic stability;
- (ii) creating enabling conditions to promote development of the non-oil sector, and increase income-generating opportunities of the population in the regions and rural areas;



Strong state, fair society and decent life mainstream the State Programme on Poverty Reduction and Sustainable Development.

*Mehman A. Abbas
Head of the SPPRED Secretariat*



Participants of Guba Regional Workshop during discussion

- (iii) improving the quality of and ensuring equal access to affordable basic health and education services;
- (iv) Improving public administration and good governance;
- (v) improving public infrastructure;
- (vi) develop an efficient and financially sustainable social protection system;
- (vii) improving the living conditions of refugees and IDPs;
- (viii) ensuring that governmental policy and programs in all sectors are promoting and protecting gender equality;
- (ix) ensuring that all economic development policies and programs, and related legislation, respect the principles of environmental sustainability.



Participants of Guba Regional Workshop during discussion

The overall goal of the SPPRSD is poverty reduction and sustainable economic development, and overall target is to achieve a 10% decrease in income poverty, as well as full eradication of extreme poverty and food insecurity by 2015. These goals and targets, aimed at achieving poverty reduction and sustainable development in the country for the coming 10 years, may be viewed as country-specific goals and targets of the Global Millennium Development Goals.

SPPRSD and participatory process

One of the important features of the SPPRSD is its participatory process, which brings together government, civil society and the international donor community in the effort to combat poverty.



Participants of Lankaran Regional Workshop during presentation

The main objectives of the participatory process can be summarized as follows:

- ensuring close coordination of the work of government representatives, civil society and international donor organizations in combating poverty;
- improving the constructive dialogue between government and civil society;
- raising public awareness of the government's poverty reduction strategy and implementation status of the current poverty reduction program;
- facilitating discussions on the impact of policy measures on the living standards of the population in order to better define priorities;
- increasing public involvement in the implementation of the program.

In the preparatory stage of the SPPRSD, the participatory process concentrated on facilitating discussion between three main stakeholders:

- authorized representatives of relevant ministries appointed as the head of Sector Working Groups (SWG), and members of the SWGs;
- international donor organizations involved in the development and implementation of the State Program;
- representatives of civil society in different regions of the country.

The SPPRED Secretariat within the MED had acquired valuable experience and capacity in coordinating participatory debate during the formulation and implementation of the country's first poverty reduction program (SPPRED), and it was able to build on this experience to organize the participatory process leading up to the formulation of the SPPRSD.



I would like to mention that the first democratic state in the east was Azerbaijan and the capital city of that state was Ganja. I am very much pleased that those who wish to help Ganja, and those who care for their labor and city participate at this meeting.

*UNDP Deputy Resident Representative
D. Eizenberg*



The authorized representatives of the central executive power acting in the capacity of Sector Working Group heads in Ganja Regional Workshop.

The State Commission responsible for preparing the Program held a meeting on July 15, 2005, and in line with the decisions taken by the Commission, SWGs were established to involve relevant government institutions, NGOs, trade unions, experts and different sections of civil society in the formulation process. The main task of the SWGs was to analyze the current situation in each sector, to define priorities and targets, as well as an action plan to achieve the targets, and to ensure that the action plan was linked to the budget. These tasks were carried out with the close participation of civil society and donor organizations. The SPPRED Secretariat coordinated the work of the SWGs.

Different sections of civil society, including local executive bodies, local and international NGOs, representatives of municipalities, the press, private sector, trade unions, women and youth organizations, vulnerable groups of the population, the unemployed, pensioners, the disabled, were actively involved in the discussion processes and consulted at regular intervals.

Regional workshops were arranged in Nakhchivan, Sumgait, Ganja, Guba, Shaki and Shamakhy in 2005 to gather information for development of the draft SPPRS and in particular to gain more insights into the population's perception of the causes and characteristics of poverty.

These workshops took the form of open discussions, which allowed the poor themselves to voice their opinion on the nature and extent of poverty and ways of fighting it.



The more we contact the people, the easier it becomes to solve the problems. In this regard, these meetings in Ganja are very important.

*Deputy head of Ganja city Executive Power
I. Aliyev*



Participants of Ganja Regional Workshop during presentation

Those opinions were discussed in public in the presence of representatives of SWGs, international donor organizations and embassies, international and local NGOs and local experts.

Reports and documentation of economic and social problems, as well as legislative documents, and the outcomes of public discussions were all used to prompt further discussions within the SWGs through coordination by the SPPRED Secretariat.

Regional Workshops

Since the main objective in the preparation of the SPPRSD is to determine the poverty level of the country, discover its reasons and prepare a strategy necessary for their removal, the active involvement of poor people in the preparation of the strategy is considered an important factor.

On the other hand, the steps taken to reduce poverty are the result of the policy pursued by the government and international organizations to reach millennium goals.

Therefore, this process was useful in terms of development of consultation with the people, discussion between the government and donor agency representatives and the community about the real and potential impact of the poverty reduction activities at local level, as well as the efficient role of the general public in the implementation of the programmes.

On the basis of broad and comprehensive discussion, the draft SPPRSD policy matrix was developed and sent to the various stakeholders for comments and review. It was also considered important to discuss the draft policy matrix more widely. For this purpose, regional workshops were arranged in Guba, Lankaran and Ganja in the period April-May 2006.



Participants of Ganja Regional Workshop during discussion



The State Programme on Poverty Reduction and Economic Development has had a positive impact on the economic development of Lankaran region, as well as the whole country.

*Head of Lankaran Region Executive Power
S. Mikaylov*

The workshops didn't only include consultation with the civil society, but also full public awareness-raising about community democratization and activities planned under the SPPRSD, and involved active participation of the civil society in the implementation of the SPPRSD, and strengthened feed-back in the decision-making process.

The first day of the two-day regional workshops included awareness-raising about SPPRSD preparation status and role of civil society in the preparatory stage of the Programme, and discussions with participation of community members and SPPRED Secretariat experts on sectors identified under the Programme.

In the second day of the workshop, there were organized open debates between the authorized representatives of central executive power acting as SWG heads, and the participants and the SWG heads provided information about activities planned under the Programme. The participants put forward relevant proposals after the discussions.

During the meetings, awareness of the SPPRSD was raised, regional studies conducted and the successful participation of civil society in the process achieved. Every participant received an action plan on all sectors of the SPPRSD, reports on Regional Workshops held in 2003, 2004 and 2005, an annual implementation report and also relevant distribution materials.

The main objective of the process was to create conditions for open meetings between the representatives capable of decision making and the people more exposed to poverty.



Representatives of international organizations during Guba Regional Workshop



Participants of Lankaran Regional Workshop during discussion

The following objectives were determined as the main tasks for the Regional Workshops:

- Awareness (Activities done);
- Feedback (Impact of the planned activities on the people);
- Enlightenment (Effective dialogue);
- Participation (Joint responsibility);
- Democratization (Joint decisions).

The Regional Workshops, held in connection with the above mentioned objectives, brought together purposeful anti-poverty efforts of central and local government, civil society and international donor organizations, included continued efficient dialogue with the civil society and exchange of views on impact of the Policy Matrix activities on the living standard of the population, and thus involved wider participation of the people in the preparation of the Programme.

The studies and observations made have proven that the participation at regional workshops, which bring together anti-poverty efforts of government and civil society, has increased the awareness and initiative of the people.



The Program has several very positive features. One of the features is the easy way of solution of social problems of the people.

*Deputy head of Guba region Executive Power
B.Alakbarov*



Participants of Guba Regional Workshop familiarize themselves with relevant documents

Thuse, as continuation of SPPRED Secretariat previous experience, the following regional workshops were held in 2006:

	Place	Date	Discussed sectors
1	Guba	13-14 April 2006	1. Education 2. Health 3. Environmental safety 4. Development of entrepreneurship
2	Lankaran	27-28 April 2006	1. Agriculture 2. Decentralization 3. Culture and Tourism 4. Youth and Sports
3	Ganja	11-12 May 2006	1. Legal and judicial reforms 2. Gender, family policy and child rights 3. Refugee and IDPs 4. Social protection

The Regional Workshops were held by the SPPRED Secretariat of the Ministry of Economic Development, with technical assistance from the Asian Development Bank and United Nations Development Programme and logistics from the Azerbaijan Community Development, Research, Training and Resour Center (local NGO).

Participating organizations

The representatives of several international organizations (UNDP, Asian Development Bank, USAID, US Embassy, BP, UNFPA, UNICEF, WFP, CHF, Counterpart International, Japanese Agency of International Cooperation) operating in the country and the community members from 15 regions took part in the Regional Workshops and shared their ideas with the builders of the civil society. The involvement of these organizations in the discussions further increased the effect of the event, and allowed more full proposals as a result of communication with the participants. In general, 42 international and local experts, and representatives of international and local NGOs made their contribution to the event through participation at 3 Regional Workshops.



Representatives of international organizations during Lankaran Regional Workshop

Coverage

236 community members from 15 regions participated at 3 Regional Workshops in 2006. Women and men representation at the workshops were 44% and 56%, respectively.

Participation of the disabled in the Regional Workshops was ensured and their proposals heard, which was very useful in terms of their normal integration to the society. In addition, wide participation of the youth at the meetings was ensured and the representatives of the Youth Resource Center took an active part in the discussions, submitted relevant proposals and made presentations.



In general, the participation of the following groups was ensured in the Regional Workshops:

- Representatives of central and local executive bodies;
- International organizations;
- Governmental and non-governmental organizations;
- Municipalities;
- Youth;
- Representatives of society and mass-media;
- Entrepreneurs;
- IDPs and refugees;
- Representatives of scientific institutions;
- Representatives of educational and health facilities.

Here is a representation indicator by regions:

	Place	Date	Represented regions
1	Guba	13-14 April 2006	Guba, Siyazan, Gusar, Khachmaz, Davachi
2	Lankaran	27-28 April 2006	Lankaran, Masally, Lerik, Astara
3	Ganja	11-12 May 2006	Ganja, Khanlar, Samukh, Goranboy, Kalbajar, Dashkasan

Proposals of the civil society

One of the main objectives of Regional Workshops was to obtain proposals from participants on region-specific prioritization of action plan to be implemented within the SPPRSD. 100 proposals covering different areas were obtained from participants in the framework of the Regional Workshops, most of which played a positive role in setting implementation period of action plans to be implemented to achieve sustainable development. The statistical classification of these proposals by regions and sectors is the following:

	Sectors	Regions			Total
		Guba	Lankaran	Ganja	
1	Development of entrepreneurship	6			6
2	Decentralization		10		10
3	Culture and tourism		10		10
4	Health	11			11
5	Environmental safety	7			7
6	Refugees and Dips			8	8
7	Agriculture		9		9
8	Education	7			7
9	Social protection			9	9
10	Legal and judicial reforms			7	7
11	Gender, family policy and child rights			8	8
12	Youth and sport		8		8
Total:		31	37	32	100

Useful proposals made by participants during the discussions have been summarized by the SPPRED Secretariat and addressed in the relevant sectors of the policy measures of SPPRSD.



Participants of the Guba Regional Workshop during discussion



Participants of Lankaran Regional Workshop during discussion

GUBA REGIONAL WORKSHOP

DATE: 13-14 APRIL 2006

1. Regional representation:

	Regions	# of participants	Indicator
1	Guba	27	
2	Khachmaz	13	
3	Gusar	12	
4	Davachi	11	
5	Siyazan	13	
Total:		76	

2. Sectoral representation:

	Sectors	# of participants	Indicator
1	Entrepreneur	12	
2	Municipality	9	
3	Health	12	
4	Ecologist	12	
5	Education	13	
6	Local and international NGOs	12	
7	Youth	6	
Total:		76	

3. Number and composition of participants:

	Composition	Number	Indicator
1	Community members	76	
2	Mass Media	4	
3	Government representatives	6	
4	International organizations	10	
5	SPPRED Secretariat	6	
6	Local executive bodies	4	
Total:		106	

4. Proposals made on the discussed sectors:

	Sectors	Proposals	Indicator
1	Development of entrepreneurship	6	
2	Education	7	
3	Environmental safety and protection	7	
4	Health	11	
Total:		31	

5. Gender factor:

- Male 54%
- Female 46%

SECTORS	PRIORITY ACTIVITIES
Development of entrepreneurship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase access to financial resources; • Improve monitoring mechanism on provision of credits; • Increase consultancy and information activities on entrepreneurship; • Arrange trade fairs on agricultural products; • Simplify registration mechanism for entrepreneurial activities; • Develop State-Entrepreneur dialogue.
Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide for admission of the nominated persons into higher education facilities; • Carry out motivational activities in areas with lack of teachers; • Raise teachers' wages and increase attention to the solution of their problems (granting credits without pawn); • Adopt education law; • Certify teachers; • Apply minimum and maximum programs in areas with lack of qualified teachers; • Increase public awareness activities to prevent girls from leaving education due to marriage.
Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raise wages of the health sector employees; • Motivate health personnel in remote areas; • Increase budgetary allocations to the health sector; • Expand health insurance system; • Strengthen material and technical infrastructure of the health sector;

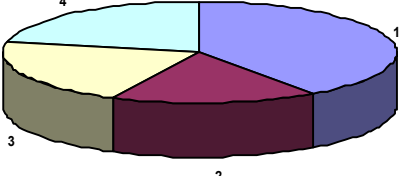
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase struggle against cardio, endemic, rheumatic, tuberculosis, brucellosis and diarrhea diseases; • Increase struggle against child mortality cases; • Increase repair and construction of medical centers; • Transfer medical expenditure to accounts of medical departments in regions; • Expand family medicine; • Introduce health education subjects into school curricula.
<p>Environmental protection and safety</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure sustainable use of forest resources and increase their area; • Carry out strict measures against illegal use of forests; • Plant fast-growing trees to meet demand of the population for construction materials; • Plant fruit-trees in forest lands (empty areas); • Improve drinking water supply in regions and construct local purification units; • Ensure effective use of river beds (decrease the number of quarries); • Establish polygons in line with modern requirements.



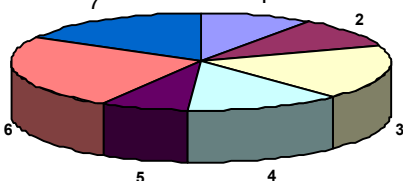
LANKARAN REGIONAL WORKSHOP

DATE: 27-28 APRIL 2006

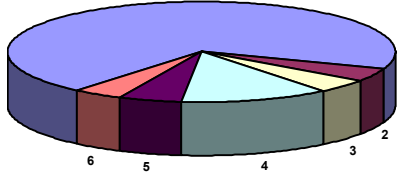
1. Regional representation:

	Regions	# of participants	Indicator
1	Lankaran	33	
2	Lerik	14	
3	Masally	17	
4	Astara	18	
Total:		82	

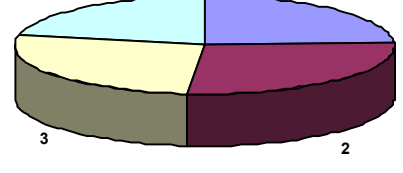
2. Sectoral representation:

	Sectors	# of participants	Indicator
1	Entrepreneur	8	
2	Municipality	8	
3	Culture	15	
4	Agriculture	11	
5	Education	6	
6	Local and international NGOs	20	
7	Youth	14	
Total:		82	

3. Number and composition of participants:

	Composition	Number	Indicator
1	Community members	82	
2	Mass Media	5	
3	Government representatives	5	
4	International organizations	15	
5	SPPRED Secretariat	6	
6	Local executive bodies	5	
Total:		118	

4. Proposals made on the discussed sectors:

	Sectors	Proposals	Indicator
1	Agriculture	9	
2	Decentralization	10	
3	Culture and Tourism	10	
4	Youth and Sports	8	
Total:		37	

5. Gender factor:

- Male 58%
- Female 42%

SECTORS	PRIORITY ACTIVITIES
Agriculture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expand “Agrotechservice” networks to improve farmers’ access to agricultural machinery; • Improve provision of the agricultural sector with seeds and fertilizers; • Support expansion of agro-processing enterprise networks; • Expand application of modern technologies to increase competitiveness of agricultural products; • Increase access of people engaged in agriculture to financial and credit resources; • Support formulation of agricultural development strategy; • Arrange trainings and disseminate experience to increase management capacity of farmers; • Strengthen material and technical resources and provide capacity building to personnel of agricultural scientific facilities; • Preserve existing amelioration and water industry resources, improve exploitation of systems and strengthen material and technical infrastructure of operational departments.
Culture and Tourism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase involvement of communities living around historical and cultural monuments in preservation of these monuments, create income-generation opportunities for these people and raise public awareness of these monuments; • Prepare a list of cultural facilities to be used as cultural tourism facilities and design cultural tourism routes; • Establish applied folk art schools and workshops within the existing culture houses in Baku and regions to preserve applied folk art; • Establish cultural development agencies within culture houses in the regions; • Restore and conserve historical and cultural monuments; • Develop alternative tourism (eco-tourism, rural tourism and etc.) and create relevant tourism routes; • Improve legal and regulatory framework on tourism; • Improve the level of provision of the culture sector with information and communication technologies; • Improve performance and expand coverage of existing information centers to increase information-dissemination and publicity activities in the tourism sector; • Allocate resources through the Public Investment Programme to improve tourism infrastructure (road, communication, electricity, gas and etc.).

<p>Decentralization (Municipalities and NGOs)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthen performance of municipal associations; • Adopt law on powers and joint activity of municipalities and executive bodies; • Make relevant amendments and additions to the Administrative Offence Code concerning municipal powers; • Improve the mechanism of subsidizing of municipal budget through the state budget; • Strengthen cooperation between relevant departments of Ministry of Taxes and municipalities in collection of local taxes and contributions; • Establish alternative services in public utility, health and education (preschool) sectors through municipalities; • Prepare qualified personnel on municipal management at the public education system; • Improve the mechanism of government and community control over financial and economic operations of municipalities; • Prepare and apply mechanism of financing of NGOs through the state budget; • Allot free air time on television to disseminate positive experience of NGOs.
<p>Youth and Sports</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create mechanism to grant privileged mortgage credits to improve housing condition of the youth; • Establish the Youth Houses in regions; • Grant long-term soft credits (for no less than 3 years) to the youth to carry out business activities; • Organize effective pastime for the youth and raise their awareness of healthy life style; • Create favorable condition for the youth to take part in decision-making processes and involve them in the fulfillment of those decisions; • Strengthen performance of existing youth social service facilities and establish new ones; • Arrange recreation and health camps for the adolescents and youth; • Strengthen material and technical infrastructure of existing sport facilities and construct new ones.



GANJA REGIONAL WORKSHOP

DATE: 11-12 MAY 2006

1. Regional representation:

	Regions	# of participants	Indicator
1	Ganja	27	
2	Khanlar	11	
3	Samukh	9	
4	Goranboy	8	
5	Dashkasan	12	
6	Kalbajar	11	
Total:		78	

2. Sectoral representation:

	Sectors	# of participants	Indicator
1	Entrepreneur	10	
2	Municipality	7	
3	Health	12	
4	Refugees and IDPs	14	
5	Education	13	
6	Local NGOs	11	
7	Agriculture	11	
Total:		78	

3. Composition and number of participants:

	Composition	Number	Indicator
1	Community members	78	
2	Mass Media	7	
3	Government representatives	5	
4	International organizations	17	
5	SPPRED Secretariat	6	
6	Local executive bodies	7	
7	Youth	7	
Total:		127	

4. Proposals made on the discussed sectors:

	Sectors	Proposals	Indicator
1	Social protection	9	
2	Gender, family policy and child rights	8	
3	Refugees and IDPs	8	
4	Legal and judicial reforms	7	
Total:		32	

5. Gender factor:

- Male 56%
- Female 44%

SECTORS	PRIORITY ACTIVITIES
<p>Social protection</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve legislative framework on targeted social assistance and raise public awareness in this direction; • Rationalize social services to improve social protection of underprivileged population; • Create new jobs for the population groups in special need of social protection; • Increase vocational rehabilitation capacity of the disabled; • Ensure gradual increase of minimum wages to the minimum subsistence level; • Improve the Single Tariff Scale; • Improve mechanism of identification of vulnerable groups; • Create suitable conditions for the disabled to move in public places; • Carry out de-institutionalization related activities.
<p>Legal and judicial reforms</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the number of regional legal assistance centers; • Establish new regional courts, including courts on grave crimes; • Establish rehabilitation centers within local executive bodies to ensure social re-integration and adaptation of the convicts; • Improve admission system for judges; • Provide capacity building to legal and judicial personnel; • Establish the State Register of the physical and legal persons (returning passport registration function to representatives of executive bodies); • Establish Juvenile Justice (establishing a board of Circuit Juvenile judges; establishing Independent Police unit; implementing the pilot project in selected regions).

<p>Gender, family policy and child rights</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase public awareness activities on gender issues; • Establish family crisis centers; • Increase public awareness activities at schools to eliminate violence against children; • Improve legislation on gender-based violence and violence against children; • Expand activities on provision of employment to strengthen families; • Raise public awareness and improve performance of law enforcement bodies in order to prevent human trafficking; • Create opportunities and conditions for women to engage in handicraft and folk art; • Increase public awareness activities to prevent early marriages.
<p>Refugees and IDPs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Register children born in IDP families in their native regions; • Repay savings left in the banks first of all to IDP families; • Increase staff positions to develop accurate statistical reports on IDPs; • Repair and improve infrastructure of buildings temporarily settled by IDPs; • Create new jobs and grant soft credits to ensure employment of IDPs; • Provide employment in new settlements; • Improve material and technical resources of IDP schools; • Provide IDP families with land plots suitable for farming.

