Supporting introduction of mediation in Kazakhstan

The project aims at increasing access to justice for vulnerable groups by effective use of mediation for dispute resolution. The project will conduct a series of education activities for professional and non-professional mediators, promote establishment of necessary education infrastructure for mediators and raise general public awareness on benefits and opportunities of mediation.

**Project goals:**
- To facilitate establishment of legal framework for mediation in Kazakhstan, in view of best international experiences and national law requirements
- To create a system for professional certification, education and service delivery of mediators
- To promote a network of professional and community mediators in the centre and the regions, ensuring access of vulnerable groups to alternative dispute resolution tools
- Inform wider audience in different locations about rules and benefits of mediation

**Expected results:**
- Organisation of an intra-agency working group on mediation issues, involving best available international and local expertise
- Develop an Action plan and necessary legal acts to support implementation of the Law “On Mediation”
- Conduct an information campaign on mediation through media, Internet and local communities with a special focus on access of vulnerable groups to mediators
- Enhancement of institutional capacity of court system and mediation organizations to educate and certify mediators
- Piloting a training of about 200 mediators and 50 trainers in different regions of the country
- To develop recommendations for further improvement and upscale the achievements of 2 pilot actions on introduction of mediation in the regions of Kazakhstan

**Project beneficiaries:**
- The Supreme Court of Kazakhstan, local courts
- Mediators
- Vulnerable groups

**Project duration:**
2012-2014

**Total budget**
$400,000

**The Government of Kazakhstan:**
$250,000

**UNDP:**
$150,000

**Partners:**
- The Supreme Court of Kazakhstan, local and regional courts
- Civil society organizations and mediation companies
- Central and local authorities, local community members

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