Applying Innovative Approaches to Regional Planning and Social Services (using Semey as an example)

The programme “Raising Competitiveness of the Region through Innovative Approaches to Regional Planning and Social Services (using Semey as an example)” is aimed at improvement of quality of life of the population and advance progress towards Millennium Development Goals achievement in East Kazakhstan oblast, in particular in the districts severely hit by nuclear tests at the former Semey nuclear site. This joint programme presented by UNDP, UNICEF, UNV and UNFPA takes into account the situation analysis of the population wellbeing and development of the acutely affected East Kazakhstan oblast, evaluation of the previous programmes and recommendations on improving the cooperation.

**Expected Results:**

- Local population and communities are empowered to participate in local planning and initiatives to improve local living standards
- Vulnerable groups in Semey, Kurchatov, Ust-Kamenogorsk and the districts affected by nuclear testing in EKO have improved access to social and economic services
- Increased awareness among the local population of the aims and objectives of the project and their links to improvements in living standards and health status
- Capacities of local executive and legislative bodies enhanced for local level planning, implementation and monitoring and evaluation, while ensuring better protection of the rights and interests of vulnerable groups of the population

**Partners:**

- Ministry of Economic Development and Trade
- Akimat of East Kazakhstan Oblast
- Akimat of Semey

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**Project Duration:**

2011 - 2015

**Total Budget:**

$11,651,365

Consisting of:

**Government of Kazakhstan:**  
$9,816,365

**UNDP:**  
$900,000

**UNICEF:**  
$700,000

**UNFPA:**  
$230,000

**UNV:**  
$100,000