A new regional UNDP project focusing on expertise and knowledge transfer from Russia has started. The main goal of the project “Knowledge Management and Capacity Building in Russia-UNDP Partnership” is to achieve sustainable, scalable development impact in UNDP programme countries primarily in the CIS region through the programmatic promotion of several mechanisms of Russian expertise transfer.

The project will aim to meet the needs of partner countries in the following areas:

- food security and social protection,
- trade capacity development and economic integration,
- infectious and non-infectious diseases,
- sanitary and epidemiological safety, phytosanitary and veterinary control,
- education,
- disaster risk reduction and prevention,
- sustainable energy and
- many others.

The project will promote innovations in Russian knowledge and expertise transfer, including the Russian Experts on Demand Programme, and will aim to strengthen the human resources base in Russian international development assistance by providing secondments, internship and volunteer opportunities for Russian specialists primarily in the CIS countries (Armenia, Belarus, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan) implementing the projects funded by the Russian Federation (with a special focus on the projects of the Trust Fund for Development).

In cooperation with the United Nations Volunteers (UNV) the project will support recruitment of qualified Russian citizens into the UNV roster and sharing the broader knowledge and research on volunteerism from Russia.

The regional project is supported by the $500,000 funding of the Russia-UNDP Trust Fund for Development and $100,000 UNV co-funding. The first Project Board meeting was held on 21 October 2016 and the first pilot phase of the regional project will finalize in June 2018.

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