



ENHANCEMENT OF LIVING STANDARDS IN NAMANGAN REGION



This project
is funded by the European Union



This project
is implemented by UNDP

Financed by the European Union (EU) and implemented by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the project Enhancement of Living Standards (ELS) in Namangan region offers concrete opportunities to local communities to play an active part in their own development and improve their own lives.

These photographs are a window into the activities of the project in support to local people's efforts to repair and reconstruct essential community infrastructures. These images were taken by the photographer to celebrate the men and women of Namangan working together to ensure a better life for themselves and their children.

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The project would like to thank the men, women and children from Mingbulok, Kasansai and Chartak districts of Namangan region who are portrayed in this booklet.

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THE STORY OF CHORDONA MAHALLA OF MINGBULOK DISTRICT

The community of Chordona is located in the eastern part of Mingbulok district in the southern part of Namangan region, approximately 15 km from Mingbulok city. Approximately 676 families, about 3105 people, live in Chordona. There is no medical point in the community and people have to travel 10–12 km for medical care. To save time and money, people end up not using medical services at the expense of their own health. Chor-



dona community reckons that a health centre is crucial to improve the quality of their lives and have asked the support of the ELS project. Local authorities have cost shared the construction of the health centre in an amount of USD 8,000 approximately. Chordona community has contributed labour, equipment and skills. The community of Chordona is also applying for a grant from the World Bank to equip the centre.

Large photo: Community representatives reconstruct a much needed health centre.

Top photo: The ground is laid for better health in the community.







Photo top #1. Representatives of Chordona community contribute equipment, machinery and their own time to rebuild a community medical centre.

Photo top #2. The proud Chordona team poses for the camera at the end of a long working day.

Photo right. Namangan region is famous for its masonry work. Chordona community is keeping up the reputation.



Kizilkum mahalla is situated in the central part of Mingbulok district in the southern part of Namangan region. It is located 15 km from Mingbulok, the district capital. Kyzylkum is home to 506 families. During the past few years clean drinking water has run short for the 1403 people living in Kyzylkum. There is a well with good water, but the electric wa-



THE STORY OF KYZYLKUM COMMUNITY OF MINGBULOK DISTRICT

ter pump is old and out of order and the well needs cleaning. A new pump and a clean well will give the community what they need most: clean, drinking water. Through community mobilization and with the help of the EU and UNDP, a new pump will be up and running and approximately 311 households will have safe water by the end of 2006. To help in the process the community is contributing their labour, skills and individual assets. Local authorities and the ELS project have promised their help for the purchase of a new pump.

Photo top. What we need now is to get together and replace this pump.

Photo right. Clean water will be pumped into the cistern and our children will have a better future.



THE STORY OF TERGACHI MAHALLA OF KASANSAY DISTRICT

Tergachi mahalla is situated in the central part of Kasansay district in the northern part of Namangan region about 15 km from Kasansay city. The water pump by the school and the water tower, once the pride of the community, need repair and have stopped working altogether. As a result many of the 2977 people living in Tergachi find it increasingly hard to get drinking water. Tergachi 782 families are also worried about the health of their children. "Think of them", the old people say, "Without water, their health is twice at risk, at home and during classes". But pumps are expensive things and buying and installing one seemed to the community an impossible task. However, by getting together and thinking of how they could solve their problems, the community resolved to contribute for the purchase and installation of a new pump. The help of EU and UNDP and the voluntary contribution of Tergachi will go a long way to make sure that Tergachi children grow up strong and healthy.

Photo left. We have joined hands with EU and UNDP. Together we are strong.

Right large photo. One has to begin from somewhere...

Photo right above. It's a daunting task and will take time, but the most important thing is to start.

Photo right below. This is going to change, no more water waste, the water tank will serve its purpose again.







THE STORY OF SAROY COMMUNITY OF CHARTAK DISTRICT

Saroy mahalla is located in the central part of Chartak district in the north-eastern part of Namangan region, a 12 km drive from Chartak city. It is home to 2431 people, approximately 572 families. Until not long ago Saroy community used to drink clean water. Now, because of the high costs of maintenance of the pipeline, people cannot afford drinking safe water any longer. To get water, 476 households have resorted to collect water from nearby springs and

streams. Girls and women of all ages have to walk 2–3 km all the way to the spring. Water is easily contaminated and this is bad for the health of Saroy community. With the help of the EU and UNDP, Saroy has come together and decided that they will have their pipeline replaced: the community is ready to contribute. Local authorities have promised their help for the purchase of essential equipment and pipes.

Photo left. It will take time, efforts and resources to replace this long pipe...

Photo below left. ...but together it can be done...

Photo below right. ...and people will not have to walk the streets in the sun and the snow carrying buckets of water.





THE STORY OF ZAVOD MAHALLA OF MINGBULOK DISTRICT

Zavod mahalla is situated on the western part of Mingbulok district in the southern part of Namangan region. It is located at about 35 km from Mingbulok city. Similarly to other rural communities in Mingbulok district, the old infrastructures that served the community well in the past are slowly decaying. The water pump in Zavod cannot give water to all and needs to be replaced. The well on which the pump is installed needs cleaning and fencing. With the help of the EU funded project, the community of Zavod will receive the support it needs to rehabilitate some of its infrastructures and take good care of them in future.

Large photo. Two of the 1675 people of Zavod community set the example.

Photo below. Zavod community representatives and ELS project staff agree on division of responsibilities.





THE STORY OF OYOIRON COMMUNITY OF CHARTAK DISTRICT

Oyqiron mahalla is located in the central part of Chartak district in the north-eastern part of Namangan region, about 5 km from Chartak city. 2298 people live in Oyqiron. There is no running water for the 576 families of Oyqiron. Setting water pipe lines is an expensive undertaking, but one that would go a long way to improve Oyqiron's living standards. In July 2005 Oyqiron community participated in a competi-

tion launched by the EU/UNDP funded ELS project and was selected to participate in the project. By pulling together and joining hands with local authorities, Oyqiron is ready to pick up the challenge. With the financial help of the project Oyqiron will give clean drinking water to its community. Things are going to change for the better in this small community in Chartak district.





Photo left top. Soon we will have a water pipe line here.

Photo right top. This is the way things are here in Oygiron, but thanks to my children they will change soon.

Photo left below. It's a woman's job to carry water, it takes time and it's tiring. When the pipes are there, there will be more time for our children.

Photo right below. These pipes will bring water to everybody in the community.





THE STORY OF UZBEKISTON MAHALLA OF KASANSAY DISTRICT

Uzbekiston mahalla is situated in the north-east of Kasansay district in the northern part of Namangan region, approximately 10 km from Kasansay city. The 2493 people living in Uzbekiston are finding it increasingly hard to cope with the problems associated with insufficient clean water. The community, like many other in the Namangan region, needs financial support to repair the electric water pump, purchase and lay down new water pipes, adjust the water tank and fence the whole area. But it is not just money that the community needs.

More than money, the community needs more confidence in their own strength when it comes to solve problems that affect their lives. By pulling together around an inspired local leadership and offering its voluntary contribution, Uzbekiston mahalla is setting an example of what a community can achieve together. During 2005 the local authorities together with the EU and UNDP, will assist Uzbekiston to purchase and install water facilities. The community will contribute free of charge their labour, skills and resources for renovation and repair.

Photo left top. Old water pipes are rusting away and need to be replaced.

Photo left below. Soon there will be water for all.

Large photo. A dry tap may become a recollection of the past in Uzbekiston mahalla.

THE STORY OF YOSHLIK MAHALLA OF MINGBULOK DISTRICT



Photo right. When I grow up... I want to be healthy and strong. Clean water will help.

Photo top #1. We will climb up there and get this thing do its job again.

Photo top #2. To carry water is mainly a woman's job, but men help too.



Yoshlik mahalla is situated in the western part of Mingbulok district, one of the most economically challenged districts in the southern part of Namangan region. The well in Yoshlik carries good water, but without a good electric pump, all what the 601 families of Yoshlik can do is to collect the water that underground pressure pushes up to the surface. Besides a new pump,

the well needs cleaning and the water tower needs repair. Just a few months ago, with the limited resources available with the community and the district authorities, clean water seemed a distant dream. In July 2005, things began to change and now Yoshlik is looking at the future with new confidence. The small community was selected by the ELS project out of 100 communi-

ties in the whole of Namangan region to work together with the project and the local authorities on the rehabilitation of community social infrastructures. Yoshlik has offered its voluntary contribution to install the water pump and repair the water tower. With the help of the EU and UNDP, Yoshlik community plans to have clean drinking water by the end of 2005.







THE STORY OF SOY BOYI MAHALLA OF KASANSAY DISTRICT

Soy boyi Mahalla is located in the central part of Kasansay district in the north of Namangan region approximately 15 km far from the district centre. For the 558 families things looked grim without a reliable access to drinking water. In 2005, by getting together and discussing about their problem, the community decided that it was time to take action. With the help

of the EU and UNDP the community will install water pipes and get clean water close to where they live. The small community of Soy boy counts 2145 people and many of them have resolved to volunteer for a better future in their community. By the end of 2005 clean drinking water will help to increase the living standards of Soy boy Mahalla.

Photo left. Soy boy community needs to take care of their children. Good drinking water is a huge step forward.

Large photo. A water pump will make sure that children in Soy boy keep healthy.



The project Enhancement of Living Standards in Namangan region is a project funded by the European Union and implemented by the United Nations Development Programme. It supports and encourages 50 local communities in three districts of Namangan region to play an active part in their own development. The project has a duration of two years (2005–2006) and works together with communities and local authorities on the preparation of a regional development strategy and the rehabilitation of social infrastructures. It also facilitates access by poor and small farmers to microfinancing.