



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



sual

Public Health and Environment in Regions of the Aluminum Industry Presence

The Program *Environment Health Improvement in Regions of Aluminum Complex Presence*, fulfilled by the Fund Sustainable Development (FSD), is part of a joint SUAL Holding/USAID Program - *Integrated Pilot Regional Development in the Russian Federation*.

In regions where SUAL plants are located, the Program addresses critical environmental and social concerns, such as the improvement of environmental health, environmental health risk management, support to local self-government, and public participation in sustainable community development.

The grants of this Program are aimed toward providing concrete support to Russian organizations in dealing with environmental and social issues in cities of SUAL presence. Grants are awarded to Russian organizations on a competitive basis.

Geography of the Program

- Kamensk-Uralsky (Sverdlovskaya Oblast)
- Shelekhov (Irkutsk Oblast)
- Nadvoitsy Settlement, Segezha, and Segezhsky Raion (Republic of Karelia)

Program Term 2005-2006

Maximum Project Term 12 months

General Subject of Activities

Environment and public health – environmental health risk reduction.

Priority Topics

The priority topics for each area were formulated with the help of local Community Working Groups.

Shelekhov

- Children's health and the environment.
- Environmental pollution reduction and prevention through improved processing of industrial and household waste, including sewage and return water treatment.
- Introduction of energy-saving techniques at schools, kindergartens, children's homes, hospitals, etc.

Kamensk-Uralsky

- Preservation and rehabilitation of child health through improving the environment in children's social institutions, including the improvement of the quality of air and water.
- Creation of environmentally safe and improved river banks (at rivers Iset and Kamenka located in the city).
- Modernization of municipal sewage treatment facilities.

Segezha and Nadvoitsy Settlement (Segezhsky Raion)

- Preservation and rehabilitation of child health through improving the environment in children's social institutions, including the improvement of the quality of air and water.
- Environmental pollution reduction and prevention through improved processing of industrial and household waste, including sewage.
- Introduction of energy-saving techniques at schools, kindergartens, children's homes, hospitals, etc.
- Urban ecology and local self-government: planting trees and shrubs and improving city areas.

Key Principles of the Program

- All projects include **practical activities** aimed at improving the quality of the environment and promoting regional sustainable development.
- The projects are targeted toward **concrete outcomes** that will reduce health threats associated with environmental pollution.
- **Partnership.** The projects are open to **multi-sector participation** (government, businesses, and NGOs).
- Project activities are conducted openly and transparently, with project results accessible to the public.
- Successful results will receive **broad coverage** in the media.

All grantee organizations of the Program:

- are Russian organizations registered according to the RF legislation;
- have proposed a non-profit project that does not generate profit for the applicant during the term of the Grant Agreement;
- have their own ruble bank accounts free of debts; and do not use bank accounts of other organizations;
- have submitted complete proposals, including all requested information outlined in Project Description and Attachments; and
- hold licenses for proposed types of activities that require such.

Decision-Making Procedure

The application evaluation procedure has been tested in the course of the 8 years of the ROLL Program in Russia and ensures transparency of the process of decision-making regarding the awards of this contest. All applications were reviewed by independent experts on the basis of special criteria and in accordance with the «Grant Application Manual».

- **Grant applications in each city were evaluated on a competitive basis by independent experts and FSD experts;**
- **Funding decisions were made by the Program Council of Experts for each city and project.**

The organizers of the contest have developed a "Grant Application Manual for the Program Environmental Health Improvement in Regions of Aluminum Complex Presence". Applicants may become acquainted with the Manual at the Program Working Group in each city, at the Fund Sustainable Development, through the regional managers of the Program, or receive it by e-mail. Besides, application-writing training seminars were organized in each city of the Program.

Brief Information on the Organizers of the Environmental Health Improvement in Regions of Aluminum Complex Presence Program



The SUAL Group is one of the ten world's largest producers of aluminum and its plants are located in nine regions of Russia. The SUAL Group is a socially responsible company whose goals include not only business expansion, but support to social and economic development and stability in regions of its presence. Starting from 2003, the company has been actively investing in such

areas and Health, Sports, Culture, Youth, and Care that deal with a broad range of social issues concerning the work and life of the company's personnel and their families. In early 2001, the SUAL Group signed a social partnership agreement concluded between its plants and municipalities, where these plants are located. This agreement is aimed at creating an innovative model of interaction between local government and plant management.



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) is an agency of the U.S. Government whose mission is to implement the U.S. Government's economic and humanitarian assistance programs over 100 countries. As part of the U.S. Embassy in Moscow, USAID/Russia works with the Russian people to create a society where citizens take an active part in a democratic society and ample opportunity to improve their well being and standard of living in a market economy.



Fund for Sustainable Development (FSD) is an independent, nongovernmental, non-profit Russian fund founded by the staff of the Russian Representative Office of the Institute for Sustainable Communities to carry out programs aimed at addressing environmental issues and supporting socially responsible development across Russia. The FSD mission is to pool multi-sector efforts for the implementation of concrete projects promoting regional and local sustainable development. FSD is an organization managing the Environmental Health Improvement in Regions of Aluminum Complex Presence Program.

**Information
on the joint SUAL/USAID Program
Integrated Pilot Regional Development Program in the Russian Federation**

Program Priorities

This unique program is aimed at:

- Expanding the potential of municipal government
- Supporting small and middle sized businesses
- Promoting sustainable development in the sphere of environmental protection
- Improving the quality of medical services and disease prevention
- Founding local community funds
- Developing civil initiatives
- Involving citizens in local decision-making

Program Geography

The following pilot regions of SUAL Group presence were selected for the Program:

- Kamensk-Uralsky (Sverdlovskaya Oblast)
- Shelekhov (Irkutsk Oblast)
- Nadvoitsy Settlement, Segezha and Segezhsky Raion (Republic of Karelia)

The Program provides for close cooperation with local government and public organizations.

Budget

The Program is intended for a period from 2004 through 2006 with total partner contributions reaching \$2.6 million. Plans include raising additional funds and expanding the program to other regions of the country.

First Phase – 2004

The first phase of the Program included a survey of the socio-economic development of municipalities.

Experts from partner organizations analyzed the strengths and weaknesses of each municipality from the point of view of budget investment efficiency, social infrastructure management, and development of small and middle sized businesses, civil society status, and citizens' opinions regarding the local government systems.

Second Phase – 2005

The second phase of the Program includes the preparation of middle-term development plans for the pilot cities and specialized programs in such spheres as education, public health, environment, utility services, and civil society. Sets of normative documents regulating the sustainability of created models were adopted on a municipal level.

Third Phase – 2006

The third phase of the Program includes a full-scale implementation of all models and programs.

Project Expectations

Successive replication of created models in other municipalities and, primarily, in regions of SUAL presence.



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



sual

Program **Public Health and Environment in Regions of the Aluminum Industry Presence**

Funded Projects

The Program is managed by the **Fund for Sustainable Development**
with funding from **SUAL Holding** and the **US Agency for International Development**
2005-2006

Project title: "My Pretty Smile".

Organization

Segezha Central Hospital, a municipal enterprise

Profile of organization

Government

Start date : January 1, 2006 г.

End date : December 31, 2006 г.

Project summary

This project will improve dental health in children living in Nadvoitsy Settlement.

1. Three dental consulting rooms will be opened in three kindergartens.
2. 750 preschoolers will have their teeth examined.
3. Latest dentistry methods will be used for treatment.
4. Children's nutrition patterns will be adjusted, vitamins and medications with calcium will be prescribed, and special toothpastes will be used.
5. Prevention and education activities will encompass 400 families.
6. A communications effort will be directed toward disseminating the program and its oral care methods.

A contest/celebration "My Pretty Smile" will be organized.

Location

Three kindergartens in Nadvoitsy Settlement, Segezhsky Raion, Republic of Karelia

Total budget \$ 57 103 Grantee contribution\$ 10 530 Grant \$ 46 673

Project Outcomes (October 2006)

The project "My Pretty Smile" is aimed at improving dental health of preschoolers and elementary school students in Nadvoitsy Settlement, Segezhsky Raion, and Republic of Karelia.

As part of the project, a dental office was renovated in the hospital of this settlement; a dental unit, plumbing fixtures, furniture and accessories were acquired and installed; and Fissurit filling material that does not contain fluorine was procured and is being used.

A communications campaign targeted at local parents and children has been launched: it includes dissemination of leaflets and booklets describing dental care techniques. The hospital's staff provided over 30 consultations to parents and delivered 9 lectures.

Teaching children in kindergartens and at the elementary school the basics of oral hygiene is continuing: 672 children were examined and 121 were taught how to care for their teeth. A total of 277 children had their teeth filled.

Oral Hygiene Room was opened under the My Pretty Smile Project in Kindergarten # 4 in Nadvoitsy settlement in the Republic of Karelia. Medical attendant Y. Morgun took an advanced training course at Moscow State Medial Dental University in the spring of 2006



The Boldyrevs family was glad to make use of the opportunity offered by the My Pretty Smile Project to undergo a teeth examination and treatment with the use of the most advanced methods and materials. Dentist Y.Lesina (in the background) and medical attendant N.Morgun (in the foreground) receive patients in June 2006 in Nadvoitsy settlement in the Republic of Karelia.,, >>>



Project title: "Clean Brook."

Organization

Administration of Nadvoitsy Settlement, Segezhsky Raion, Republic of Karelia

Profile of organization

Government

Start date : April 1, 2006

End date : September 30, 2006

Project summary

This project will plant trees and shrubs and improve the local recreational area in the center of the settlement; and arrange sites for placing waste collection containers:

1. The banks of a brook that flows through the recreational area will be cleared of trash and fallen trees (200 linear meters).
2. The brook will also be dredged.
3. Landscaping activities will be carried out on the area along the brook.
4. The local recreation area will be improved.
5. 22 disposal containers will be placed on specially allocated sites.
6. 40 trees and 560 decorative shrubs will be planted.
7. Media coverage: local TV station Omega; the district newspaper "Trust", and the publication of promotion materials.
8. Volunteer labor days will be organized on Saturdays that will be joined by nearly 300 people.

Location

Nadvoitsy Settlement

Total budget \$22 729 Grantee contribution\$12 229 Grant \$10 500

Project Outcomes

This project was aimed at involving the residents of Nadvoitsy Settlement in the Republic of Karelia in an effort to improve the living environment of the community.

In May 2006, a campaign was launched in the local press to promote public participation in the project.

The voluntary activities organized by the project were joined by local schoolchildren, and the staff of such organizations as the NAZ-SUAL Branch, Nadvoitsky Energy Company, Segezhsky Housing Trust, and Set.

The members of the community cleaned the valley of the brook that runs through Nadvoitsy Settlement.

In Nadvoitsy Settlement, five sites for placing trash containers were prepared; and 22 such containers were acquired and installed.

As a follow-up, the project team has reached an agreement with NAZ-SUAL Branch to deliver fertile soil for planting trees and shrubs; and it is negotiating with suppliers of trees and shrubs, which will be planted at the recreation area and around trash container sites. Project activities also included purchasing and installing urns, litterbins, and benches.



<<< A trash container site installed by the project..

An area in the valley of the brook that was improved as a result of the voluntary effort of the community.. >>>



Project title: "Energy-Efficiency in Municipal Budget-Funded Institutions as a Step toward the Sustainable Development of Nadvoitsy Settlement "

Organization

Administration of Nadvoitsy Settlement, Segezhsky Raion, Republic of Karelia

Profile of organization

Government

Start date : August 1, 2005

End date : December 31, 2005

Project summary

This project will help reduce heat energy consumption and save municipal budget funds by installing heat energy meters in institutions funded by the municipal budget in Nadvoitsy Settlement (Kindergartens # #1, 2 and 3, community center, and a children's sports school); improve the quality of heating in the buildings by conducting energy monitoring; and improving the professional qualification of the staff

Location

Nadvoitsy Settlement

Total budget \$17 264 Grantee contribution\$7 107 Grant \$10 157

Project Outcomes

The goal of this project was to reduce heat consumption and spending from the municipal budget on heating. Project activities included the installation of heat energy meters in kindergartens ## 2, 3 and 4, at the community center, and the children's sports school.

The project has almost been completed: in six institutions heat energy and hot water meters have been installed and the heating system at the school is being adjusted.

These energy-efficiency activities make it possible to save 1.3 million rubles of budget spending on heating.



Project title: «Clean Environment»

Organization

Middle School # 40, a municipal general education institution

Profile of organization

Non-profit

Start date : September 15, 2005

End date : January 1, 2006

Project summary

This project will improve the indoor environment in schools and kindergartens by installing water and air filters; provide health-improving herbal beverages to children; plant trees and shrubs outside these institutions; install house plants inside the building; classrooms in School # 40 and Kindergartens # 95 #42 will be supplied with health-protective equipment, such as air filters, UV devices, and water filters specially selected for the conditions of this city; "Health Lessons" will be conducted for the children and their parents; community members and parents will take part in improving areas around the school and kindergartens; and project experience will be disseminated among the broad public.

Location

Kamensk-Uralsky, Krasnogorsky Raion, Sverdlovskaya Oblast

Total budget \$27 531 Grantee contribution\$7 656 Grant \$19 875

Project Outcomes

This project installed 3 water fountains with water purification devices at School # 40; and sorption filters for treating water at the kitchens of child care centers # 45 and # 92.

The "I Am Healthy!" Program was developed for improving the health of children attending elementary school.



Green areas consisting of anti-bacterial plants were arranged in 4 elementary school class rooms of School # 40 and two nursery groups of child care centers # 45 and # 92.

Special recommendations on the use of integrated techniques of improving the environment and schools and child care centers were handed over to all schools of the city.



Project title: "A Clean River for Our Descendants".

Organization

Kamensk-Uralsky Utility Technical and Engineering Service, a municipal Unitarian enterprise

Profile of organization

Business

Start date : November 10, 2005

End date : April 10, 2006

Project summary

This project will carry out biological treatment of sewage to rid it from nitrogen and phosphorous at the sewage treatment facility in Kamensk-Uralsky by introducing additional treatment techniques; monitor dissolved oxygen content by installing devices M COM 253 made by Endress-Hauser Liguiscs; promote new technology on areas of SUAL presence among for stakeholders and the public; and cover the project activities and its positive impact on public health in the local media.

Location

Kamensk-Uralsky, Krasnogorsky Raion, Sverdlovskaya Oblast

Total budget \$35 278 Grantee contribution\$15 278 Grant \$20 000

Project Outcomes

This project carried out contract supervision and adjustment of an automatic system for monitoring the content of dissolved oxygen in aeration tanks at the municipal sewage treatment facilities that are managed by the grantee organization.

The grantee organization conducts regular educational excursions for school students to the city's treatment facilities where they become acquainted with new treatment methods and water-saving techniques



The newly installed operational monitoring devices allow reducing the concentrations of nitrogen compounds by 60% and phosphorus compounds by 80% in discharged sewage.



Project title: "Let's Save the Nature of Kamenskoye Interfluve".

Organization

Kamensky Rodnik, a limited liability company

Profile of organization

Business

Start date : December 15, 2005

End date : June 30, 2006

Project summary

This project will include activities to preserve the natural environment of Kamensk-Uralsky and protect local rivers and their banks from trash disposal and contamination. The project will include several areas: cleaning the banks of rivers Kamenka and Iset from litter; opening a unique historical, natural and cultural complex Kamenskoye Interfluve; implementing a children's environmental project entitled "Iset and Kamenka Rivers Need our Care" during which schoolchildren from the city's schools will become acquainted with the unique nature of these rivers, will help clean areas along these rivers, and will create a video film, a Web page and a media project "My Iset River".

Location

Kamensk-Uralsky

Total budget \$21 900 Grantee contribution \$1 900 Grant \$20 000

Project Outcomes

Under this project, unauthorized dumps in the area of Kamenskoye Interfluve were eliminated; and the banks of rivers Iset and Kamenka are being cleaned of waste: 30 t were collected and removed at the cost of grant funds and 70 t – at the cost of matching funds. Recreational sites were improved and provided with architectural details and posters bearing the words "Our Goal is to Turn Kamensk-Uralsky into an Attractive, Interesting, Beautiful and Clean City!"



The project team has established good working relations with local businesses for raising funds for socially significant projects.

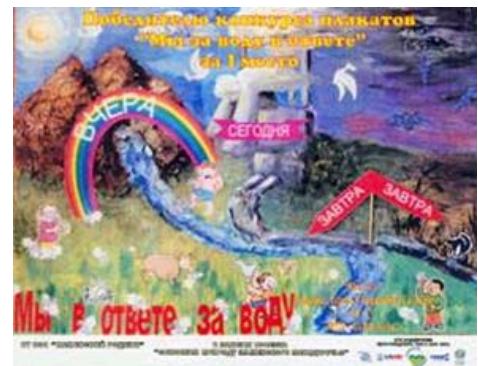
A news conference was held for the city's mass media,

leaders of the youth movement, and NGOs. Local schoolchildren are creating a video film, a Web page and a media project entitled "My Iset River". Project activities also included the publication of a guide/album.

The project prepared the following draft legislative documents for the City Duma:

- Provisions on founding Kamenskoye Interfluve Historical, Cultural and Nature Preserve (a specially protected nature area of a regional status)
- Программы развития экотуризма в городе до 2010 года

A work by Darya Tushkova and Tatyana Sofrygina (School # 34, 10th Grade) was awarded First Prize in the contest of posters devoted to the theme "We Are Responsible for Water!"



Project title: "Preventing Environmental Pollution by Recycling Solid Household and Industrial Waste"

Organization

SibEcoTrans, a limited liability company

Profile of organization

Business

Start date : Decemer 1, 2005

End date : July 31, 2006

Project summary

This project will organize the receipt, transportation, sorting, and storage of recyclable waste (carton, paper, polyethylene, and plastic bottles).

Location

Shelekhov

Total budget \$ 35 462 Grantee contribution\$ 15 586 Grant \$19 876

Project Outcomes

Organization: SibEcoTrans LLP (Irkutsk)

Under this project, a waste recycling center was set up for which a rotary disintegrator of polyethylene plastics; a hydraulic stacker; and a plaster slab press were acquired and commissioned; and the procedure of accepting, transporting, sorting and storing recycled waste (carton, paper, polyethylene plastics and plastic bottles) was put in place. Every month up to 70 t of carton and paper and nearly 5-6 t of polyethylene plastics and plastic bottles are processed and removed. Recycling center operators were trained and additional jobs were created. A free removal of waste from educational institutions has been organized in accordance with an agreement concluded with Shelekhov Raion Administration.

Outcome: significant decrease of the number of unauthorized dumps in the city; lower level of harmful emissions to the atmosphere; and, as a result, an improvement of environmental health in the city of Shelekhov.



Project title: "Warmth and Kindness."

Organization

Kindergarten # 14, a municipal preschool educational establishment

Profile of organization

Government

Start date : September 1, 2006

End date : June 30, 2006

Project summary

This project will carry out a series of activities aimed at reducing disease rates among children by modernizing existing and installing new heat and energy saving equipment in the kindergarten; and will administer traditional alternative medicine remedies stimulating the immune system (herbal beverages, aromatherapy, and phyto design).

Location

Shelekhov, Shelekhovsky Raion

Total budget \$ 22 000 Grantee contribution\$ 2 000 Grant \$20 000

Project Outcomes

Organization: Alyonka Kindergarten # 14, a municipal preschool educational institution

This project is aimed at improving energy-efficiency in the kindergarten to protect and improve the health of children who attend it. Project activities included installing 24 insulating glass units; winterizing old windows; putting in 6 new doors and a warm entrance door with air heat shields; repairing the heating unit and installing a heating meter.



As a result of this project, energy spending was lowered and 30,000 rubles of municipal budget funds were saved; the average rate of respiratory diseases among the children was dropped from 26 to 11 days per 1 child a year. The project was broadly covered in the mass media. Brochures on how to educate children in energy-saving and general environmental culture were published. A special aromatherapy room was organized (where 140 children undergo 2 courses of treatment a year); 140 children and 25 employees underwent an 8-month course of phytotherapy; and an energy-efficiency training seminar for 45 heads of local educational institutions was held. Alyonka Kindergarten is one of the first in the ratings of the city and raion kindergartens

Project title: "Mother and Child".

Organization

Shelekhov Central District Maternity Hospital

Profile of organization

Government

Start date : September 1, 2005

End date : June 30, 2006

Project summary

This project will install an artificial respiration unit in the local maternity hospital for optimizing normal and complicated deliveries; train medical personnel to operate the new equipment; improve the quality of medical services; form a universal computer base of the local medical network; organize a hot line; provide psychological support to women after abortion or miscarriage; and offer consultations on such topics as family planning, women's health, protection of reproductive health, infectious diseases, etc.

Location

Shelekhov, Shelekhovsky Raion

Total budget \$ 38 702 Grantee contribution\$ 18 702 Grant \$20 000

Project Outcomes

Organization: Shelekhov Central Raion Hospital, a municipal institution

This project acquired and put into operation patient monitors and an artificial respiration unit for the obstetric department of the hospital.



As a result, the conditions of the stay in hospital of maternity patients and newborns have improved significantly and the rate of complicated deliveries dropped by 60-70%. Consultations (1,500) were conducted for women on such subjects as protection of women's reproductive health, family planning, pregnancy, and AIDS prevention); as well as physical therapy lessons (145) for expectant mothers. The medical staff of the hospital is undergoing advanced training and is also being instructed in the use of new technology. Project activities include improving the overall quality of medical services. The project was broadly covered in the mass media: 24 articles were printed in the local press, and 6 radio and television pieces and interviews were devoted to the project and its results. One hundred copies of guidelines on project results were published.

Project title: "Sewage Tanks Overhaul"

Organization

Vodokanal Municipal Unitary Enterprise

Profile of organization

Business

Start date: June 1, 2006

End date: October 31, 2006

Project summary

Modernizing the municipal sewage treatment system, which at the start of the project consisted of a 100% deteriorated system of wooden overflow edges of radial-flow settlement tanks. This caused an overburdening of the aeration tanks with pollutants and a worsening of the properties of return sludge, which, in turn, led to poor-quality sewage treatment and a contamination of water bodies to which the treated sewage was discharged.

Improved sewage content and reduced pollution of rivers Olkha, Irkut and Angara as a result of the installation of 490 linear m of new ridged overflow edges made of high-quality PVC instead of the wooden ones, including 210 linear m funded by the grantee. The new durable edges will serve for 15-20 years, unlike the old ones that have to be replaced every 3 years and whose repair used to cost over \$1,200 a year. The project also includes monitoring and laboratory tests of the sewage.

Location of replication

Irkutsk Oblast, Shelekhov

Total budget \$13,419

Grantee contribution \$5,119

Grant \$8,300

Project results:

The project team used a cost-effective approach to select and purchase new ridged overflow edges (280 linear m) made of high-quality PVC installed at 8 sedimentation tanks. Grantee funds were used to install 250 linear m of ridged overflow edges made of organic glass. This new equipment is much more durable than the old wooden overflow edges that were 100% deteriorated at the beginning of the project. The new equipment allows to reduce by 20% the washout of suspended matter from the tanks and to cut expenses for their repair by 10-15 times.



Grant funds were used to install ridged overflow edges made of organic glass



Project Manager Elena Milanova and Shelekhov TV journalists interview members of the project team

Project title: "Warmth, Care and Comfort Benefit Child Health"

Organization

Gymnasium # 19 (Malyshok), a pre-school and elementary school municipal educational institution

Profile of organization

Government

Start date: June 1, 2006

End date: October 31, 2006

Project summary

Creating a healthy environment for children through the implementation of the following activities:

- Reducing energy losses in the building and increasing indoor temperature;
- Repairing the ventilation system at the swimming pool and the gym and conducting physical therapy lessons;
- Installing modern physical therapy equipment;
- Equipping a sensory room for improving the children's physical and emotional state of health;
- Organizing a city training seminar "Social and Health Improvement Techniques in the Practice of a Child-Care Center"

Location of replication

Irkutsk Oblast, Shelekhov

Total budget \$ 9,991

Grantee contribution \$ 1,619

Grant \$8,300

Project results:

The indoor environment was improved considerably after the project team sealed the joints of the wall panes and insulated the roofing. The city allocated 253,000 rubles for repairing electrical wiring. The ventilation system of the swimming pool and the gym were repaired, making it possible to resume regular lessons in the swimming pool and hardening the children. The frequency of colds among the children dropped by 20%. A sensory room with a "dry basin", a walking ladder, a Chizhevsky Chandelier, and a special twister cube for dexterity development was set up. A physical therapy room was also opened as part of project activities.



A physiotherapy room was opened for treating children who are often ill



The walls of the kindergarten building were sealed and whitewashed

Project title: "Health Counts Most"

Organization

Kindergarten # 17 (Zolotoi Kluchik), a pre-school municipal educational institution

Profile of organization

Government

Start date: June 1, 2006

End date: October 31, 2006

Project summary

This project includes a whole range of activities to improve the health of pre-schoolers:

- Equipping a salt mine – a speleaean treatment room – for preventing; environmental diseases in children and strengthening their immune systems;
- Using environmental design for improving child health: placing phytoncide plants in an “environmental room”;
- Improving the indoor environment of the kindergarten by installing PVC heat shields in doorways;
- Improving the outdoor environment around the kindergarten, which is located near a highway and an industrial area, by planting 50 trees capable of catching pollutants.
- Organizing a seminar “Spelaean Therapy: Health Improvement Measures at Child Care Centers”; and broadly covering the project in the mass media.

Location of replication

Irkutsk Oblast, Shelekhov

Total budget \$9,307 Grantee contribution \$1,007 Grant \$8,300

Project results:

The equipment of a salt mine – a speleaean treatment room - was completed with the help of partners from Novosibirsk, who also conduct training for the kindergarten's staff on how to operate this room. The salt mine has special lighting, music, and figurines carved on the walls – all this helps improve child health, lowers respiratory disease risk, reduces stress, and strengthens the immune system. An environmental room was also renovated and adorned with antibacterial houseplants. At this room, the children are taught to relax and also undergo aromatherapy. A special Chizhevsky Chandelier ionizes the air in the room. To protect the air around the kindergarten, 50 pine spruce seedlings were planted. The project's staff conducted a master-class for parents on self health-improvement at which they were taught self-massage and breathing exercises techniques. The project received broad coverage in the local press.



The kindergarten principal Tatiana Zhukotskaya in the environmental room during an interview to Shelekhov TV



The salt mine has special lighting

Project title: "Let's Give Warmth and Care to Children from an Orphanage"

Organization

Specialized Orphanage # 2, a state public health institution

Profile of organization

Government

Start date: June 1, 2006

End date: September 30, 2006

Project summary

Energy-efficiency activities at the building of the Orphanage that accommodates 60 permanent inmates aged 0-4 years old:

1. replacement of old window frames in the bedrooms with new plastic ones;
2. installing ionizing and air purification equipment.

Carrying out a series of activities aimed at improving the surrounding outdoor area (putting in new sandpits, planting flowerbeds, and pruning the poplars that grow around the orphanage).

Establishing media relations to increase public awareness among the population and the city's organizations about the need to address the issue of preserving the health of children left without parental care, including such measures as raising non-budgetary funds for supporting the orphanage.

Conducting a broad public education campaign devoted to modern forms of interaction between citizens and orphanage inmates.

Location of replication

Sverdlovskaya Oblast, Kamensk-Uralsky

Total budget \$ 9,347

Grantee contribution \$1,047

Grant \$8,300

Project results:

New window frames in the bedrooms and other rooms of the orphanage were replaced with new plastic ones as a result of the project's energy-saving activities.

Respiratory and allergic disease frequency among the children dropped 50% (as compared with last year) as a result of the work of the newly-installed air clearers; and the general living conditions of the children and the working conditions of the staff have improved considerably.

The adjacent area was landscaped: flowers were planted, the trees were pruned, and new sandpits were put in.

A broad public information campaign about the project was launched at local television, radio and press with the aim of motivating community members to take part in various forms of caring for the children from the orphanage. This resulted in an increased involvement of sponsors from among local businesses and individuals. In the framework of this project, various types of assistance were provided by the business firms Irbis and Sibna, the Entrepreneur NGO, the city's motor transport enterprise, the Ural Treasures Bank, and Demidovsky Factory.



Project title: "Learning to Save Water"

Organization

Boarding School # 27, a municipal general education institution

Profile of organization

Government

Start date: June 1, 2006

End date: October 31, 2006

Project summary

Educational and practical activities aimed at studying and preserving water bodies. The pupils of the boarding school visit unique areas along the banks of Iset and Kamenka rivers and municipal water-preparation and water discharge facilities where they learn about the significance of water; environmentally responsible approaches to water use; water-saving techniques; and the water cycles in economic activities.

Organizing a contest of drawings and posters at the boarding school and a contest of best projects for improving Kodinsky Warm Water Spring, a local nature monument protected by the regional government, with the winning project being implemented by the students. Preparing educational materials on the economical use of water and methods of saving water resources. Installing an anti-bactericidal device for purifying water in the building of the boarding school in which the pupils spend 24 hours a day.

Conducting an active public information campaign in the local mass media.

Location of replication

Sverdlovskaya Oblast, Kamensk-Uralsky

Total budget \$ 3,454

Grantee contribution \$555

Grant \$2,899

Project results:

As part of this project, the members of the Young Natural Scientists Club performed plays and delivered lectures to 120 inmates of the boarding school. The activists of the movement "Let's Help Iset River!" spoke of the unique riverbank areas of the city and of the importance of water for life on Earth and how it can be saved; and also organized joint environmental activities together with the

students of the boarding school during which they cleaned the river banks and collected soil for aquaria.



An expanded pet's corner where natural history and ecology lessons are held for all grades and where the children learn to take care of animals, which promotes their social adaptation. Excursions were also organized to municipal sewage treatment and water-preparation facilities.

An anti-bacterial water purification device installed in the school's kitchen improves the health of the inmates and teachers. The winning posters of the contest "Learning to Save Water" were handed over to 40 educational institutions in Kamensk-Uralsky. They will teach the younger generation of the city to treat water in the natural environment and at home with care. In the summer of 2007, the joint environmentally oriented activities of the pupils of the boarding school and the members of the Young Natural Scientists Club will be continued.



Project title: "We Will Grow Up Healthy".

Organization

Kindergarten # 89, a municipal pre-school educational institution

Profile of organization

Government

Start date: June 1, 2006

End date: October 31, 2006

Project summary

Installation of a universal water treatment system Aquafor Viking in the kindergarten's kitchen; organizing a phyto bar with herbal teas; and equipping the gym, the musical room, the physical therapy room and group rooms with ultraviolet air decontamination devices.

Providing the bedrooms with salt lamps, installing ultrasonic and compressor nebulizers, and decorating the premises with phytoncide houseplants, and acquiring special balls for exercises that help form and correct body posture and strengthen muscles.

Organizing a sports event – "Mother Father and I: an Athletic Family".

Conducting a series of seminars devoted to phytoncide design for teachers and parents.

Organizing a volunteer workday with the participation of parents and teachers.

Location of replication

Sverdlovskaya Oblast, Kamensk-Uralsky

Total budget \$9, 169

Grantee contribution \$874

Grant \$8,295

Project results:

In the course of this project, 24 devices for purifying air and water were installed, as well as 3 medical health-improvement apparatuses: ultrasonic and compressor nebulizers and an appliance for preparing oxygen cocktails. Solar lamps were also installed in the bedrooms.

A universal water treatment system Aquafor Viking was installed in the kindergarten's kitchen.

The phytoncide houseplants that were placed in the playrooms of the 4 groups of the kindergarten produced results as early as in just several months: the number of colds among the children dropped by 1.5-2 times; over 100 children benefited from these activities. In addition, all the pre-schoolers and teachers are undertaking treatment courses with herbal teas.

The teachers of the kindergarten conducted a seminar for disseminating the experience of the project "We Will Grow Up Healthy" among 28 kindergartens of the city.



Project title: "Soul Ecology"

Organization

ROSTOK Rehabilitation Center for Children with Limited Abilities, a state educational institution and Young Natural Scientists Club, a municipal educational institution

Profile of organization

Government

Start date: June 1, 2006

End date: November 1, 2006

Project summary:

Setting up a "Green Island" (an environmental room with plants and animals) and acquainting the children with various occupations and providing them with knowledge they will be able to use in the future (about such professions as horticulturist, greenhouse worker, zoologist, teacher, ecologist, etc.).

Improving the surrounding outdoor area: planting 3 flowerbeds of a total area of 32 sq.m; installing 4 decorative components made of natural materials (a goldfish, a turtle, and an hedgehog family). Creating a Health Trail from natural materials.

Creating conditions for promoting tolerance and a humane attitude toward children with limited abilities attending the Young Natural Scientists Club, in particular, through interaction between the children and teachers of the Center and the Club in the process of taking care of animals, plants and nature sites; organizing theatrical events; introducing environmental elements and setting up an ecological room at the Center; and informing the community about the positive relationships between the teachers and children.

Location of replication

Sverdlovskaya Oblast, Kamensk-Uralsky,

Total budget \$12,736

Grantee contribution \$4,436

Grant \$8,300

Project results:

The area adjacent to the Rehabilitation Center was landscaped: the members of the Young Natural Scientists Club and the teachers of the Center planted 3 flowerbeds (32 sq. m), installed decorative components made of natural materials (a goldfish, a turtle, and an hedgehog family) in the Center's yard; created a Health Trail from natural materials.

Continuation of the initiative Green Island, an environmental room with plants and animals intended for children who stay at the Center for in-patient treatment, as well for children who live in Kamensk-Uralsky. Five aquariums are being installed and anti-bacterial houseplants were purchased and placed in the Center to improve the quality of indoor air. The joint excursions of the inmates of the Center, parents and teachers to local nature monuments improve the psychosomatic condition of the children participating in the project. The city newspaper *New Compass* and the children's newspaper *Hedgehog* printed by the Club actively informed the community about project events and activities.



Project title: "Organizing a Folk Crafts Center for the Social Rehabilitation and Adaptation of the Disabled".

Organization

Boarding School # 14, special (correctional) municipal educational institution

Profile of organization

Government

Start date: June 1, 2006

End date: October 31, 2006

Project summary

Organizing a Folk Crafts Center for the Social Rehabilitation and Adaptation of the Disabled at Boarding School # 14 for training disabled children in traditional folk crafts: basket weaving, fabric weaving, creating folk toys, Karelian painting, and building ship models from wood.

Location or replication

Republic of Karelia, Segezhsky raion, Nadvoitsy settlement

Total budget \$ 8,300

Grantee contribution \$0

Grant \$8,300

Project results

This project, headed by S.Fetulina, organized a Folk Crafts Center at Boarding School # 14. The teachers of this school attended a training course in traditional arts and crafts taught by the craftsmen of Charna settlement in Pryazhinsky raion and are now successfully instructing their pupils in these skills. The Center includes such groups as basket weaving, wood painting, fabric weaving, and creation of folk toys. The boys are especially interested in the ship model group. The creative atmosphere of the Center helps the students learn a trade and is giving them a chance to find their place in adult life. Apart from the children, pensioners from Nadvoitsy settlement also attend these groups.

The pupils of the correctional school in Nadvoitsy settlement master traditional crafts

Building a boat



The older pupils weave carpet runners



Project title: "Prishvinskaya Trail School Ecotourism Club"

Organization

Nadvoitsy Settlement Middle General Education School, a municipal educational institution

Profile of organization

Government

Start date: June 1, 2006

End date: October 30, 2006

Project summary

Founding an ecotourism club and forming a mobile team of the children's environmental group at the school in Nadvoitsy. Activities include organizing patrolling, hiking and environmental and local lore activities among the students; studying the anthropogenic impact on nature objects and historical landscapes; and preserving the unique natural heritage of the region.

The pupils study, promote and practically apply the environmental ideas of the Russian writer Mikhail Prishvin on a location that he had described in his writings; clean from trash and improve the unique historical and nature areas around the Voitsky Waterfalls and Voitsky Mine. Project activities also include organizing environmental trails; conducting public education and information events at the school and community; analyzing the recreational and tourist potential of the surrounding areas; and preparing a package of information materials.

Location of Replication

Republic of Karelia, Nadvoitsy settlement

Total budget \$9,806 Grantee contribution \$1,400 Grant \$8,406

Project Results:

The students of the middle school in Nadvoitsy, together with their history teacher L.Pomortseva (Prishvinskaya Trail Project Coordinator) have organized a tourism club. They go on bicycle tours of the surrounding countryside and take part in practical environmental activities, such as cleaning nature monuments of trash. The twenty five new bicycles acquired by the school under the project, allowed to considerably expand the areas under study and to organize more active environmental patrolling. The students oversee the condition of such nature and cultural sites as Voitsky Mine, Voitsky Waterfalls, and Shavanskaya Dam.



Students of Nadvoitsy Middle School on a local lore bicycle tour



Environmental action for cleaning of nature monument territory

Project title: "Founding an Environmental Information Center at Nadvoitsy City Library"

Organization

Nadvoitsy City Library, a municipal institution and Branch # 2 of Segezhskaya Centralized Library System

Profile of organization

Government

Start date: June 1, 2006

End date: October 31, 2006

Project summary

This project promotes healthy life styles, provides an open and unlimited dissemination of environmental information, and involves the residents of Nadvoitsy settlement, primarily local youth, into socially significant and environmentally oriented activities.

This project is unique, for it has set up an integrated information center in Nadvoitsy that accumulates all local environmental information in interaction with industrial facilities and organizations. This information is further conveyed to the broad public.

Location of replication

Republic of Karelia, Segezhsky raion, Nadvoitsy settlement

Total budget \$ 5,471

Grantee contribution \$1,236

Grant \$4,235

Project results:

A room in the library building has been renovated for the Information Center. The following creative contests were organized during Nadvoitsy Day for the residents of the settlement:

- a photo contest "Happy Moments" devoted to the nature and people of Nadvoitsy
- a poetry contest "My First Attempt at Poetry"
- a contest of posters "Be Healthy!"

The Information Center is being organized at the local library under the guidance of N. Ivleva as part of project activities. It will provide open Internet access to the members of the community and topical information on the environmental situation in Segezhsky raion.

