

ORGANIZATION OF WOMEN'S SUPPORT ACTIVITIES IN THE MAHALLAS OF KASHKADARYA REGION

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Abstract

This article analyzes the work carried out in the mahallas of the Kashkadarya Region in the field of supporting women. In particular, the measures implemented to ensure the employment of women, involve them in entrepreneurship, handicrafts, and home-based work, support women in need of social protection, provide preferential loans, offer vocational training, provide housing, and strengthen families are described. Furthermore, the article analyzes the effectiveness of the system for increasing the socio-political activity of women, preventing violence and offenses, reconciling troubled families, and providing comprehensive support to women in mahallas.

Keywords: Mahalla, Kashkadarya Region, women, employment, entrepreneurship, handicrafts, vocational training, social protection, "Women's Notebook", strengthening the family, support for women, mahalla.

Introduction

Systematic work was carried out in the mahallas of the Kashkadarya Region to support women, ensure their employment, strengthen their social protection, and widely involve them in entrepreneurship and handicraft activities. In particular, consistent measures were implemented to provide women with vocational training, develop family entrepreneurship, allocate preferential loans, support women in need of social protection, provide them with housing, and increase their socio-political activity. Furthermore, significant results were achieved in strengthening families, preventing violence and offenses, reconciling troubled families, and improving the system of comprehensive support for women in mahallas. This article analyzes the work carried out in the mahallas of the Kashkadarya Region in the field of supporting women.

Relevance of the Study

The measures implemented in the mahallas of the Kashkadarya Region to support women, ensure their employment, strengthen their social protection, and widely involve them in entrepreneurship and handicraft activities are of great importance in increasing the role of women in society. In particular, the work carried out through the "**Women's Notebook**" to support women in need of social protection, provide vocational training, allocate preferential loans, develop family entrepreneurship, provide housing, prevent violence and offenses, and strengthen families demonstrates the practical results of the reforms implemented in this field. Therefore, analyzing this experience, generalizing the results of the work carried out, and evaluating the effectiveness of the system of supporting women in mahallas determine the relevance of this research.



Main Part

The experience of the Kashkadarya Region in ensuring the employment of women has been established. In 2020, employment was provided for 29,022 unemployed women. In 2021, employment was provided for 13,420 women included in the "Women's Notebook".[1]

Measures were taken to improve the living conditions of nearly 2,815 women in need of social protection. Housing was allocated to 122 women from 443 families in difficult living conditions and in need of housing, including 110 women by the Public Fund for the Support of Women and the Family and 12 women by district (city) hokimiyats, and the newly constructed houses were presented on the eve of national holidays.

A total of 206 women with disabilities and in need of assistance were provided with wheelchairs and rehabilitation equipment, and medical and social assistance was provided.

In order to develop handicrafts in the region, 1.1 billion soums were allocated from the Employment Promotion Fund to attract 500 unemployed women to three cooperatives established for this purpose.

A total of 300 women were engaged in one cooperative in Shahrisabz city, 100 women in one cooperative in Shahrisabz district, and 100 women in one cooperative in Kitob district. In addition, 300 women were involved in the silk production cluster established in Shahrisabz district. A total of 669.0 million soums were allocated from the Employment Promotion Fund.

A system for implementing innovative projects in cooperation with regional non-governmental non-profit organizations was strengthened to engage women in handicrafts, family entrepreneurship, home-based work, and inventiveness.

With the support of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), practical assistance was provided in Kashkadarya region to 100 women and young people who lost their jobs due to the coronavirus pandemic. This assistance, financed through international grants, included providing sewing machines, bakery ovens, and necessary equipment for shoe repair and hairdressing activities to help them start their own businesses.

In cooperation with the regional Entrepreneurship Center on "Enhancing the social and political activity of women," 3,606 girls and daughters-in-law from low-income families in 771 mahallas across the region were provided with free vocational training in local training centers. Upon completion of the courses, they were awarded certificates, and measures were taken to ensure their employment[2].

In cooperation with the Labour Department, persons with disabilities and socially vulnerable individuals, as well as unemployed women, are being engaged in handicrafts and entrepreneurship based on the traditional "Ustoz-Shogird" (master-apprentice) system. By the end of the year, 4,567 women were provided with motivation and vocational training aimed at encouraging them to actively participate in social life.

Among women living in difficult social conditions and wishing to start small business and entrepreneurial activities, online competitions are held once every quarter, including "Start and Develop Your Own Business" and "The Best Women's Business Project," focusing on developing business management skills and entrepreneurial competencies.

Through preferential credit resources amounting to 7 billion 322 million soums allocated by the Public Fund for Support of Women and Families, 789 new jobs were created for 435 beneficiaries. In addition, rehabilitation centers were launched in Kitob and Kamashi districts.



Special small-scale production enterprises are being established for women with disabilities, and a system of providing preferential loans through the Women's Fund has been implemented. In addition, 60 women with disabilities who do not have a stable income and are not capable of repaying loans for subsidized housing, but who expressed a desire to engage in home-based work, were provided with modern sewing machines.

For 12 women living in difficult social conditions and in need of medical assistance and surgical operations, financial expenses related to surgical procedures were fully covered.

In order to prevent crime among women at an early stage, preventive measures were implemented with 1,210 women identified as being at risk of criminal behaviour.

Measures were taken to improve 718 dysfunctional families, and psychological correctional training sessions were organized for 650 children from these families.

Regular psychological consultations were conducted with the involvement of psychologists for 267 women and their children who were victims of harassment and violence.

Measures were also undertaken to reconcile 740 families on the verge of divorce and to legalize the marriage of 263 families living in unregistered (informal) marital unions[3]

In order to prevent divorce cases, online training sessions were organized for young brides and grooms, and members of the "Nuroniylar" public council were assigned to families that were on the verge of divorce.

On a quarterly basis, in order to strengthen families, a reconciliation month titled "The Happiness of My Family is in My Own Hands" is conducted. In addition, a system has been established to discuss the results of efforts aimed at improving the social and psychological environment in dysfunctional, conflict-prone families and those at risk of divorce under the leadership of the regional governor.

Overall, activities in this field have been rapidly developed in the region. Furthermore, an electronic system has been introduced to study family-related problems and ensure their timely resolution.

Conclusion

The measures implemented in the mahallas of the Kashkadarya Region to support women produced significant results in increasing their social activity, ensuring their employment, and strengthening their social protection. Consistent work was carried out to provide women with vocational training, involve them in entrepreneurship and handicraft activities, allocate preferential loans, provide housing, deliver social assistance, and guide them toward professions under the "**Master–Apprentice**" tradition. Furthermore, the work carried out to strengthen families, prevent violence and offenses, reconcile troubled families, and improve the system of comprehensive support for women in mahallas contributed to increasing the effectiveness of the reforms in this field.

References

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